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# Western Kentucky CATHOLIC

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Owensboro, Kentucky

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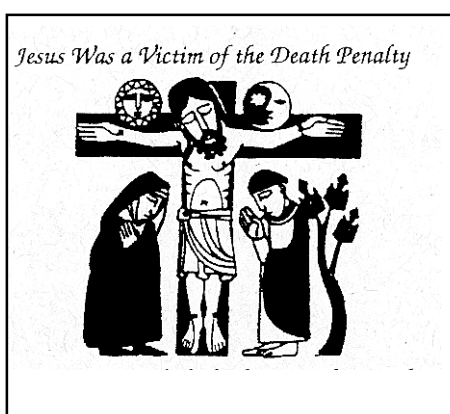
December, 2000

## Ursuline Sisters Take Corporate Position Against Capital Punishment

By Sr. Ruth Gehres, O.S.U.

MAPLEMOUNT, KY - The Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph, Maple Mount, Ky., have taken a corporate position in opposition to the death penalty. The process for reaching this decision involved the entire community and followed a policy adopted by the community in 1987.

The decision was "an overwhelming corporate position," stated Major Superior Sister Rose Marita O'Bryan, OSU, in her message to the community. "It is an issue in accord with our Ursuline Way of Life, with our charism, and with our Mission Statement."



In a July 2000 address to the community, Sister Rose Marita noted that "the use of capital punishment in the United States stigmatizes us as the only western democracy that kills its own people."

The Catholic Church opposes the death penalty on the grounds that it violates the sanctity of life and Christian principles of forgiveness. In his encyclical *The Gospel of Life (Evangelium Vitae)*, and constantly since its publication, Pope John Paul II has asked that governments stop using death as the ultimate penalty. Corporate positions against capital punishment have been taken by the United States Catholic Conference

and the National Conference of Catholic Bishops, as well as by a number of mainline Protestant denominations.

In September 1997, the United States Ursulines of the North American Ursuline Leadership Conference adopted a stance opposing the death penalty. Many other religious communities have publicly taken this position.

The Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph have also joined a group of churches and religious organizations throughout the country in tolling their chapel bell each time a person is executed in the United States.

*continued on page 5*

## U.S. bishops focus on death penalty

WASHINGTON - U.S. Catholic bishops opened their fall conference Nov. 13 with calls to abolish the death penalty, reverse Supreme Court abortion rights decisions and welcome immigrants to the church.

The bishops discussed a statement renewing the church's opposition to the death penalty. Cardinal Roger Mahony, Los Angeles archbishop and chairman of the bishops' domestic policy committee, said the church drafted the statement in hopes of raising "innovative, community-

based strategies for addressing crime."

"We are encouraged by small but growing signs that support for the death penalty is eroding and that capital punishment is being reconsidered," Cardinal Mahony said in a written summary of the proposed statement. "We welcome legislation to address these issues. ... It is time to abandon the death penalty - not just because of what it does to those who are executed, but because of how it diminishes all of us."

Source: Excerpts from APstory, 11/14/2000.

## A Walk in Different Shoes

By Edie Keeney

One recent Saturday evening 41 students and 9 adults from St. Francis de Sales, Rosary Chapel, St Thomas More and St. John in Paducah spent the night in a cardboard "Shanty Town." The teens are members of "Life Teen," a national Catholic youth organization based in Arizona whose mission is to bring teens closer to Christ.

The purpose of the shantytown was to give the teens a view of the experiences that face homeless people everyday. Eric Worth saw it as an enlightening experience, "It taught us a whole lot, what life would be like

if you really were homeless."

The teens spent the night at St. Francis on the corner of 6<sup>th</sup> St. and Kentucky Avenue, the downtown area of Paducah. They got cardboard from dumpsters and some local furniture stores. They put together a crude shelter and huddled under it. "Matt Hogancamp remarked that, "It was fun to get together with everyone but I got cold and uncomfortable; I did learn what these people have to go through though." The teens ate peanut butter and jelly sandwiches at a "soup kitchen" for supper and oatmeal the



Some of the 41 students and 9 adults from St. Francis de Sales, Rosary Chapel, St Thomas More, and St. John in Paducah who spent the night in a cardboard "Shanty Town." Edie Keeney photo

next morning. They stood on the street corner and asked people passing by for money. Someone called the police and they had to explain what they were doing. They were told that they could hold up signs asking for help but they could not approach anyone.

At 2 AM a 74 year old homeless man came by pushing a grocery cart. He came over to

the fire where the teens were warming themselves and talked to them. They noticed that he was not wearing socks so one of the group offered him an extra pair that she had and he offered her 30 cents to pay for them. He talked with them and told them that his family didn't want to have anything to do

*Please see page 32 for the rest of the story*

# Christmas Feast Is A Great Time of Hope For All

My Dear Friends,

This issue of the *Western Kentucky Catholic* will take us through Advent and Christmas, a great time of year for all of us who believe. We are going to spend the next four weeks preparing for the 2000<sup>th</sup> Birthday of Our Redeemer, Jesus Christ.

As a diocese, we have tried to make this Holy Year—the first year of the new Millennium—very special. We started a year ago by talking about our Holy Father's theme for this time in the History of Christianity—namely, *OPEN WIDE THE DOORS TO CHRIST*. We held diocesan celebrations, especially the Chrism Mass during Holy Week and the Jubilee 2000 celebration on Pentecost Sunday, and many other smaller celebrations. We have also seen the end of Renew/Renacer 2000, which has spanned the time of preparation for the Jubilee year and the year itself. There have been many celebrations in parishes during this past year, too, and I am grateful to all those parish communities who took seriously the invitation to "Open Wide the Doors to Christ."

We will conclude the Jubilee Year on Epiphany Sunday - January 7, 2001. We now come to the final season and final celebration during this Jubilee Year: Advent and Christmas.

Advent is a time when we do two things: one, we prepare for Christmas when Christ's first coming is celebrated and remembered; and two, we are reminded that we are still in that time of preparing for Christ's second coming.

## This Advent especially significant

This is a momentous Advent because we are preparing for a very important birthday—2,000 years since the birth of Jesus.

Certain birthdays call for extra effort or advance preparations. Occasionally I am reminded that someone will be celebrating their 100<sup>th</sup> birthday and I enjoy writing them a letter to mark the occasion. When milestone birthdays come along—40, 50, 65, or others—family and friends often



**Most Rev. John J. McRaith, D.D.**  
Bishop of the Diocese of Owensboro, KY

make a memorable day of it for the birthday person. Preparations may be made well in advance and can last for several months.

These next four weeks call us—the family of Christ—to plan for the celebration of Jesus' milestone 2000<sup>th</sup> birthday. I am sure that parishes will designate prayer times, and meaningful events that will help them as a community to celebrate.

We will also want to do something individually to prepare for this birthday. It would be wonderful if that would fit into a family preparation. I would ask that each family take a little time to talk about what they are going to do this Advent to make Christmas particularly meaningful this year.

## Essential preparations for Advent

Allow me to make a few suggestions. First of all, we would want to center on reconciliation—forgiveness. For us, as humans, many times a milestone birthday can be a time for reconciliation in a family,

among friends, or in a parish. There is nothing worse than having people at odds with one another at a birthday celebration, or perhaps left out of the celebration all together. So RECONCILIATION is essential in our preparation for Christmas.

A lot of hard work goes into preparing for a big birthday party. We need to think about how to prepare and realize that it will mean going the extra mile in making the preparations, be that individual, family or parish. Each will have to decide how best to get ready, but the point I want to make is, that while preparation is hard work, it is what makes the birthday celebration a success.

May I suggest that another way of preparing is to make sacrifices? Obviously, again this can be a family decision or a parish decision, but it is important that we also make personal sacrifices as we make our own preparations to truly *celebrate* Christ's birth this year.

Lastly, prayer is a base rock essential in all this preparation. The Church will offer many opportunities for additional prayer times. Again, know that as we prepare for the Coming of Jesus, we will want to be in constant contact with the person of honor—with Jesus Christ. We do this through our prayer life. I am not going to make a list of what prayers should be

prayed, but please know that extra celebrations of the Eucharist and receptions of the Sacrament of the Eucharist, as well as reception of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, would seem to be not only necessary, but extremely appropriate. By receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we will find great help in fulfilling the first requirement listed above for a good birthday celebration.

This is such a great time of hope for all of us. Our Holy Father speaks a great deal about hope, and with the coming of Christ as one of us—born as a baby in poverty—we have the very basis of our Hope. So may this Christmas be a time of hope for all of us as we celebrate our redemption by the birth of Christ.

I end by wishing all of you a Joyful Christmas and the promise that you will be remembered in my Mass at midnight as we celebrate Christmas—not alone, but as God's family and as the Diocese of Owensboro, the Church of Western Kentucky. May the Peace promised by the Birth of Christ be your Peace this Christmas.

God's blessing on you always.  
Sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend John J. McRaith  
Bishop of Owensboro

## Bishop McRaith's December Schedule

- 1 Brescia University-Breakfast Meeting-7:00 a.m.
- 2 Sts. Peter and Paul, Hopkinsville, Fund Raiser Dinner and Auction-7:00 p.m.
- 5 Catholic Conference of Kentucky-Louisville
- 7 Staff Meeting-CPC-9:00 a.m.
- 7 Meeting with Mount Saint Joseph Leadership Council-1:30 p.m.
- 8 Dedication Lourdes Grotto-Henderson
- 13 Paducah Office
- 15 Mass-Owensboro Catholic Middle School-9:15 a.m.
- 18 Priest Personnel-CPC-9:30 a.m.
- 18 Priests' Council-CPC-1:30 p.m.
- 19 Bishop Soenneker Home-Christmas Party-5:00 p.m.
- 20 Mass and Dinner-Sisters of Mercy-5:00 p.m.
- 21 Staff Meeting-CPC-9:00 a.m.
- 24 Midnight Mass-St. Stephen Cathedral
- 25 Christmas Day

## Mensaje del Obispo

# Las Festividades de Navidad son un momento de esperanza para todos.

Queridos Amigos,

En esta publicación de la Iglesia Católica del Oeste de Kentucky, le llevaremos a través del Advencimiento y la Navidad, una gran época del año para todos nosotros los creyentes. Vamos a pasar las próximas cuatro semanas preparando el cumpleaños de nuestro Señor Redentor, Jesucristo.

Como diócesis, nosotros trataremos de hacer de este año Santo, el primero del nuevo Milenio muy especial. Comenzamos las preparaciones hace un año hablando sobre temas de nuestro Padre en la historia de la Cristianismo, ABRA LAS PUERTAS A CRISTO. Hemos tenido celebraciones diocesanas, especialmente en Semana Santa y el Jubileo 2000 celebración en Domingo de Pentecostes y otras celebraciones más pequeñas. Hemos visto el final de Renacer-Renovar 2000 que han atravesado por un tiempo de preparación para el año de Jubileo y para el año en si. Han habido celebraciones en las parroquias durante el pasado año, y estoy muy agradecido a esas comunidades de las parroquias que tomaron seriamente la invitación a ABRIR LAS PUERTAS A CRISTO.

Finalizaremos este año de Jubileo el 7 de enero del 2001, domingo de Epifanía. Ahora llegamos al final de la temporada y también de la celebración durante el año de Jubileo: Advencimiento y Navidad.

Advencimiento es una época en que hacemos dos cosas: una, nos preparamos para la Navidad cuando celebramos y recordamos la primera venida de Cristo y dos, nos recuerdan que todavía estamos en la preparación para la segunda venida de Cristo.

### Este Advencimiento es especialmente significativo

Es un Advencimiento muy importante porque nos preparamos para un cumpleaños 2000 desde el nacimiento de Jesús.

Ciertos cumpleaños son un llamado para preparaciones adelantadas que llevan una gran esfuerzo.

Me recuerdan de vez en cuando que alguien estará celebrando su cumpleaños número 100 y gozo al escribirles una carta para marcar la ocasión. Cuando se acercan estos cumpleaños tan especial como por ejemplo 40, 50, 65 años u otros, familiares y amigos frecuentemente hacen de este un día memorable para la persona que cumple años. Preparaciones para estos cumpleaños

pueden hacerse por anticipado y pueden durar meses. Las próximas cuatro semanas nosotros la familia de Cristo como llamados a planear la celebración del gran cumpleaños 2000 de Jesús. Yo estoy seguro que las parroquias designaran horas adicionales de oraciones, y eventos importantes que ayudaran a las comunidades a celebrar.

Nosotros también queremos hacer algo individualmente para la preparación de este cumpleaños. Sería maravilloso si pudieramos participar de la preparación de una familia. Les pediría a cada familia que tomaran un momento para hablar de que van hacer en este Advencimiento para que Navidades sean significativas este año.

### Preparaciones esenciales para el Advencimiento

Permitánme hacer unas cuantas sugerencias. Primero que todo, nosotros queremos concenentrarnos en reconciliación-perdón. Para nosotros, como humanos, muchas veces el acercarse un gran cumpleaños puede ser tiempo de reconciliación con la familia entre amigos o en una parroquia. No hay nada peor que tener personas en desacuerdos unas con otras en una celebración de cumpleaños. Así es que la RECONCILIACION es esencial para nuestra celebración de Navidad.

Mucho trabajo encierra la preparación de un gran fiesta de cumpleaños. Nosotros necesitamos pensar que preparar y realizar esta fiesta nos llevara más de allá de unas cuantas millas, como individuos, familia o parroquia. Cada uno tendrá que decidir como mejor puede prepararse, pero el punto que yo quiero enfatizar es, que toda preparación conlleva trabajo duro, y esto hace la celebración del cumpleaños un éxito.

Puedo sugerir que otra manera de preparación es la de hacer sacrificios? Obviamente, otra vez esto puede ser una decisión de familia o de la parroquia, pero es importante que hagamos sacrificios personales al hacer nuestras propias preparaciones para celebrar verdaderamente el nacimiento de Cristo.

Por último, las oraciones son la roca esencial en esta preparación.

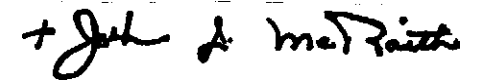
La Iglesia ofrecerá hora de oraciones adicionales. Otra vez, sabemos como nos preparamos para la venida de Jesús, queremos estar en contacto con las personas y hacemos esto mediando nuestras oraciones. No voy a hacer una lista de las oraciones que debemos rezar, pero por favor celebraciones

adicionales de la Eucaristía y recepciones del Sacramento de la Eucaristía, así como la del Sacramento de Reconciliación; parecen no sólo necesarias sino extremadamente apropiadas. Recibiendo el Sacramento de la Reconciliación, nosotros encontraremos una gran ayuda para llenar el primero requisito arriba descrito para una buena celebración de cumpleaños. Este es un gran momento de esperanza para todos. Nuestro Santo Padre habla mucho sobre la esperanza, y con la venida de Cristo como uno de nosotros-nacido como bebe en pobreza- nosotros tenemos la base para nuestra esperanza. Así sea esta Navidad un tiempo de esperanza para todos mientras celebramos nuestra

redención por el nacimiento de Cristo.

Yo finalizo deséandoles una muy alegre Navidad y la promesa que serán recordados en la misa de medianoche cuando celebraremos la Navidad - no sólo, pero como la familia de Dios y como la Diócesis de Owensboro, la Iglesia del Oeste de Kentucky. Sea la Paz prometida por el nacimiento de Cristo su Paz en esta Navidad.

Dios los bendiga siempre,



Reverendo John J. McRaith  
Obispo de Owensboro

# Misas en Español en la Diócesis

## Masses in Spanish in the Diocese

### Beaver Dam

Sunday / Domingo - 3:30 p.m., Rev. Fid Levri. Parroquia - Holy Redeemer Parish, 13th & Madison Streets, P.O. Box 106, Beaver Dam, KY 42320. Tel 270/274-3414.

### Bowling Green

Sunday / Domingo - 6 p.m., Rev. Manuel Rivas. Parroquia San José - St. Joseph Parish, 434 Church Street, Bowling Green KY 42101. Tel 270/842-2525.

### Elkton

Sunday / Domingo - 7 p.m., Rev. Frank Ruff, rclark@wk.net. Parroquia - St. Susan Parish, 221 Allensville St., P.O. Box 788, Elkton, KY 42220-0788. Tel 270/265-5263.

### Henderson—held monthly

4th Sunday of each month / 7 p.m., Rev. Edward Bradley. Parroquia - Holy Name Parish, 511 2nd St., Henderson, KY 42420. Tel 270/826-2096.

### Mayfield

Sunday / Domingo 2 p.m., Rev. Ray Clark, rclark@wk.net. Parroquia San José - St. Joseph Parish, 702 West Broadway, Mayfield KY 42066. Tel 270/247-2843.

### Owensboro—bilingual

Saturday / Sabado - 4:30 p.m., Rev. Brad Whistle. Contact: Sr. Lorraine Lauter, Tel 270/684-6888. Parroquia - Precious Blood Parish, 3306 Fenmore Street, Owensboro, KY 42301.

### Owensboro

Sunday / Domingo - 3 p.m., Rev. Tony Bickett. Contact: Sr. Fran Wilhelm, Tel 270/683-2541. Parroquia - Sts. Joseph & Paul Parish, 609 East 4th Street, Owensboro, KY 42301.

### Paducah

Sunday / Domingo - 3 p.m., Rev. Ken Mikulcik, frken@apex.net. Parroquia - St. Thomas More Parish, 5645 Blandville Road, Paducah, KY 42001-8722. Tel 270-534-9000.

### Russellville

Sunday / Domingo - 8 a.m., Rev. Glenn Jarman. Parroquia - Sacred Heart Parish, 296 West 6th Street, Russellville, KY 42276-1495. Tel 270/726-6963.

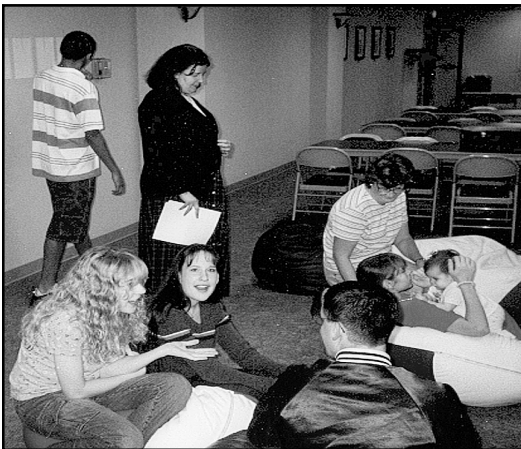
### Sebree

Sunday / Domingo - 2 p.m., Rev. Stan Puryear. Contact: Brother Ken Grondin, Tel 270/835-2584. Parroquia - St. Michael Parish, 57 Watkins Road, P.O. Box 705, Sebree, KY 42455.

# Helpers, Naturally ...



A Natural Helpers Retreat was held at Mount St. Joseph Retreat Center October 22-23 for those involved in that program at Owensboro Catholic High School. Students selected by their peers as being one they go to when they have a problem met at the retreat to learn helping skills. Those skills include a questioning technique which encourages those who are troubled to talk about their problems. There are about 50 involved in the program. Linda Ford, a retired OHS teacher, provided the training. Other adults working with the retreat were OCHS faculty members Jim Ivey, Kristie Coomes, Bev Howard and Bruce Embry. Pictured here with Mrs. Coomes and Mr. Ivey are students David Evans, Adam Meister, Matt Tucker, Kerri Coomes, Tim Velotta, Kathleen Hayden, Dusty DeLacey, Meghan Clark, Ashley Williams, Chris Riley, Brad Powers, Joel Mattingly, Dustin Brooks, Chrissy Murphy, Sarah Clark, Cate Hulsey, Becky Nix, Katie Long, Lauren Brown, Chelsea Taylor, Haley M. Riney, Krystal Smith, Kim Minalga, Michelle Gipe, Ryan Biscopink, Chris McCarty, Simon Ebelhar, Eric Lyninger, Shannon Clark and Stephanie BUMM.



The St. Stephen Cathedral Youth Group has activities about every week for youth and adults in the parish. Below, children from the St. Stephen Preschool dressed up on Halloween and visited senior Catholics in the Undercroft of the Cathedral. At left, young people gathered in the Undercroft for an evening activity. Ron Grenwell photos.



## St. Stephen Cathedral Parish Youth Group

# March For Life

Buses will be leaving from Bowling Green and Owensboro on January 20, 2001 to carry Western Kentuckians to Washington, D.C. for the annual March For Life.

## Bowling Green:

Bus departs from the Knights of Columbus Hall parking lot at 6:00 P.M. on January 20, 2001. Contact Tom or Rita Parrott at 1-270-782-6777 for information.

## Owensboro:

Bus departs from Wesleyan Park Plaza parking lot at 8:00 p.m. Contact Owensboro Right To Life at 270-685-4922, or Martha Kauffeld at 270-771-5525, or Jim and Carolyn Matthieu at 270-988-2384.

Buses return to Owensboro on Wednesday January 24 approximately 1:00 A.M.

# Roe -v- Wade Anniversary

Saturday, January 20, 2001

Saint Stephen Cathedral  
614 Locust Street  
Owensboro, Kentucky

2:00 p.m. Mass, Bishop John McRaith  
Blessing of Travelers Going  
To Washington & Frankfort  
3:00 p.m. Prayer, Saint Stephen Ca  
thedral & Pilgrimage To  
Monument, Resur

Rachael  
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3:55 p.m. Closing Benediction  
4:00 p.m. Reception, Cathedral

Questions call Rita Brothers @ 270-683-1545 Sponsored by Diocesan Office of  
Social Concerns, brothersr@cpc.brescia.edu



Undercroft

## The Western Kentucky Catholic

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*"We, the Catholic people of the United States, united in our families, parishes, and dioceses, pledge to work together to encourage all those responsible for the media we use each day to fulfill their vocations responsibly and to eliminate that which diminishes our appreciation of God's image in creation."*

*U.S. Bishops, Renewing The Mind of the Media.*

# Diocese Celebrates Marriage With Mass, Reception In Cathedral

By Mel Howard

OWENSBORO, KY - The Family Life Office of the Diocese of Owensboro hosted a Celebration of Marriage in St. Stephen Cathedral October 15 for couples married 25, 40, 50 or more years.

Couples from many parishes attended the celebration. Each was recognized with a certificate signed personally by Bishop John J. McRaith and given a photo of their parish group with Bishop John.

Bishop John spoke personally with each couple during the liturgy or the reception held afterwards in the undercroft. In his homily the bishop praised the couples for their witness of commitment to their wedding vows which each renewed at the Mass.

Bishop John spoke of God's call for people to fulfill His will for our lives by describing his own call in 1982 to come here as bishop. "I stopped and took the call because of who was calling," he said. His phone call actually came from then Archbishop Pio Laghi, the Apostolic Nuncio to the United States. Because of who was calling him, Bishop John said, though he was in a hurry, he stopped and spoke with the Archbishop. That's also the way it is with us when God calls, the bishop said: we stop to answer because of Who is calling us.

"God brought you together," Bishop John said, "you walked together with God, with each other. Know that God put you together so many years ago. It didn't just happen. It was a call from God."

"The Lord asked you for a total commitment to His will," Bishop John said, "you were free to say yes or no. He called you: 'Give everything to me. Turn your life over to me.'"

"We celebrate today the fact that all of you continue to give yourselves to Jesus, to each other, to your family. Jesus will reward one hundred-fold those who remain committed to Him. You'll never know how your contribution in building up the kingdom of God has affected people."

"We pray that you continue to say yes to God, that others, too, will say yes to the Lord. We pray that in your celebrating your call from God that you will continue to be a witness to the Body of Christ," the bishop concluded.

Many young children and young adults came to the Marriage Celebration for their parents or grandparents. Single Catholics, too, attended the celebration of commitment to a vocation in life. All persons have a stake in supporting others in their vocation. There were some who attended this liturgy who had no family members celebrating wedding anniversaries.



Two girls listen as the couple behind them renew their wedding vows October 15 in the cathedral. Staff Photo



Charles and Shirley Clark, Blessed Mother, Owensboro, after renewing wedding vows. Lois Rutigliano photo

## MSJ Ursulines Stand Against Death Penalty

*continued from page 1*

This campaign, which is being promoted by the Dominican Sisters of St. Catharine, Ky., already has the support of more than 40 religious communities. Participants will ring bells for two minutes at 6 p.m. on the day of an execution anywhere in the nation.

"Many persons and organizations have been steadily sowing the seeds for a future free of capital punishment," Sister Rose Marita stated. "Our corporate stance as a community opposing the death penalty is a way for the blossoming of hope for that future. It is, we believe, what Jesus would do today to renew the face of the earth."



On October 15, St. Stephen Cathedral Parish decorated the worship space with a huge banner which announces a basic duty of all vocations to share their good news with all others. Staff Photo



John and Edwina Hyland renewing their wedding vows. Edwina directs the Diocesan Family Life Office. Lois Rutigliano photo



Betty and Russell Ebelhar of St. Stephen Cathedral Parish renewed their wedding vows to each other with all the other couples on October 15. Staff Photo

## LIVING THE JUBILEE IN THE FAMILY

*From the Family Life Office*

### 1. Be a domestic church.

- \* Nurture the love in your family.
- \* Make time for each other.
- \* Pray and work together.
- \* Be considerate of each other.

### 2. Practice Forgiveness

- \* Examine your conscience
- \* Take part in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.
- \* Think about and pray for the persons you

need to forgive and those whose forgiveness you should seek.

### 3. Live a just life.

- \* Treat all persons as the sons and daughters of God that they are.
- \* Practice charity.

### 4. Know and share your faith.

- \* Talk about God's presence in your life.
- \* Share scripture study time with friends and discuss how your faith applies to your daily life.

# Giving Comfort

## A Letter to Wesley From His Mom, Jody

By Lois Rutigliano

*The first of two parts; the children of the Slaughters family attend St. Stephen Cathedral Preschool in the same building with the Catholic Pastoral Center. Jody Slaughter contributed to this article with her letter to Wesley.*

OWENSBORO, KY - If you read the August issue of the WKC you may remember the article entitled "The Tail of the Dog that Marched for Jesus."

June 10 was Jesus Day in Owensboro and the temperature soared into the high 90's. It was a time for coming together with family, friends, and Jody Slaughter's puppy, a Golden Retriever named Belle. All were there to witness about Jesus.

The March for Jesus left English Park at 11:00 AM, with the procession going down Fourth Street, then cut across to Second Street as time grew short and returned to the park. It was during the march that Belle, the puppy with the heart shaped tongue, stole our hearts. The heat was too much for the little girl, so she decided to leave the parade and lie down on the grass near the sidewalk to rest. Belle just lay there with all fours stuck up in the air and refused to move. Jody sprinkled water on her tummy to cool her off a bit. The other marchers smiled at Belle's comical antics and offered their encouragement. After a brief rest, Belle rejoined the march for Jesus to the smiles and delight of her fellow marchers and brightened every one's spirits, ending the day with joy and laughter.

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The following is a story about a little boy and his family who loved one of God's little creatures so much that it prompted his Mom Jody, to write the following letter to her son Wesley.

### "Dear Wesley,

Yesterday was a very hard day for our family. It's 4 AM and I can't sleep, because I'm thinking about our Belle that got hit by a car and died yesterday afternoon. She was the best dog - always loving and good to you and Mary Katherine. Mommy and Daddy cried a lot, but you said you weren't going to cry. But lots of times you said, "I wish Belle didn't have to die." I could tell you were sad and we tried to encourage you that it's all right and even good to cry when we lose something special, but you just held it in. We took her to Woodbury, dug a place to lay her



**Jody Slaughter with Wesley and Belle during the March For Jesus June 10. Lois Rutigliano photo**

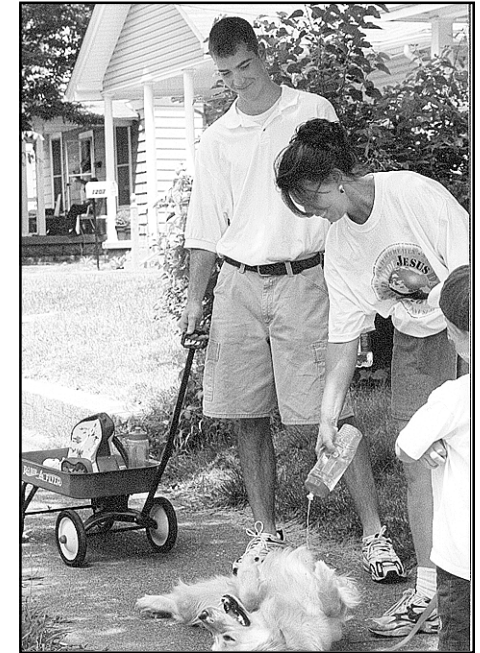
in Meme and Peepaw's yard. Daddy worked so hard digging Belle a special place to be buried. When we got to that place all the dogs gathered and some across the way were howling. You said, "they were probably telling all the dogs that Belle had died." Meme said, "God's creatures know things like that." We opened the bag where she lay to pet her head and say goodbye, then Daddy placed her in the ground and replaced the dirt over her to protect her body. Crying, he said goodbye to his little girl. As we placed the roses on her grave I noticed the beautiful sky above her, full of stars. When we brought that to your attention you said, Maybe they are all celebrating Belle coming up." Yes! That was a good way to be comforted by God's creation.

"As we lay awake, unable to feel better, God suddenly filled my mind with this picture: I saw Belle sitting beside God. God had his arm around her and she was smiling, breathing with her tongue hanging out, wagging her tail as if they had just played with her toys. God said to me, "You have loved her and my creatures so much and I love her too. She's in my care now. I will provide you with more pets that will be as wonderful."

"God helped me tonight to feel better by affirming me for how much I loved one of His creatures and how He will provide others for



**Wesley and Belle taking a breather and water break during the March for Jesus June 10. Notice Belle's heart-shaped tongue. Lois Rutigliano photo**



**Jody and Slaughters stopped a while with Belle who got too hot in the June 10 March For Jesus. Belle needed some cool water. Lois Rutigliano photo**



**Wesley and his sister Mary Katherine with Belle last Christmas. Wesley went to St. Stephen Cathedral Preschool and now so does Mary Katherine. Jody Slaughter photo**

us to love. Belle is with her creator, our God and Heavenly Father. God will always take care of us through difficult times.

"I love you and I'm so sorry, Mommy."

This story will be continued in the next issue of the *WKC* to tell you about how God works in mysterious ways through His creations to accomplish His purpose in a language we can understand. Creatures teach us valuable lessons and give us comfort in our time of need. Belle served God in her own special way during her short life. Next time we'll share more of Belle's story

# Open the Door to Jubilee and to “A Catholic Revival”

**By Carolyn Haas**

MURRAY, KY - “I opened the Door.” Sr. Mary Margaret Pazdan, OP, said that to us as she began to walk slowly up the middle aisle of St. Leo’s Church in Murray, KY, on Sunday, September 24. She referred to how our Pope John Paul II had opened the Holy Door of St. Peter’s Basilica. On December 24 at 11:27 PM, 1999 after pronouncing the words: “Aperite mihi portas iustitiae” (Open for me the door of justice.) the Pope pushed open the Door with both hands. Thus he inaugurated the Great Jubilee of the Year 2000.

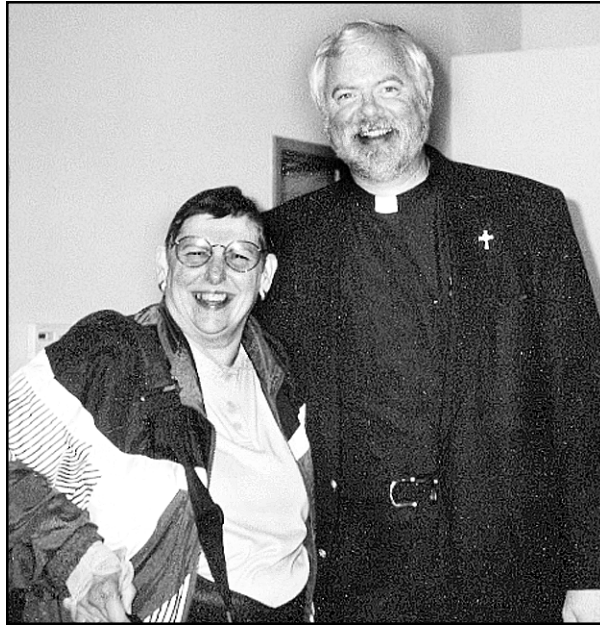
Continuing to stand in our Church’s aisle, Sister Mary Margaret said, “Into our Door here at St. Leo’s we have parents coming in bringing their children to be Baptized, we have

engaged couples coming in to receive Matrimony, we have people coming in the door to receive their First Communion and to be Confirmed. The faithful of this Parish come in to receive Holy Eucharist. And, when we have a death, like Mallory France died this past week, the France family come in this door.”

Sister Mary Margaret brought the Opening of the Jubilee Door close to our hearts when she personalized it. We knew that this “Catholic Revival” was going to be a unique experience. It would open our hearts and lead us to desire to learn more about how we can increase our love and care towards everyone in God’s world, particularly our fellow Murray-Calloway County residents.

We sang the first song as Sister processed to the Altar area. The Newman House musicians provided 4 singers and 1 flutist, 1 pianist, 1 trombonist and 2 trumpeters. The song was: TRUMPET IN THE MORNING, and the trumpet players made us hear “the trumpet sound in the morning.” The final stanza of that song is: “Let the prophets speak in parables, let the story tellers spin Tales of faithfulness and rescue ‘til the banquet shall begin, How God wove the world with wonder, how God led us through the sea, Why we keep a day of rest and call a year of Jubilee!”

Father Ray Goetz then joined Sister by the podium to introduce her to the more than 125 persons in our Church. He told us that when



**Fr. Ray Goetz, organizer of the Revival and EmCee, posed with videographer Carolyn Haas on the final night of the revival. Haas Photo**

he phoned her to ask her to speak at the Revival, she asked, “What’s a Catholic Revival?” He’d replied, “I don’t know, but let’s find out.”

He told us about Sister, his former Biblical Studies professor while he’d been on Sabbatical last year: “She’s very good at Scripture, but she did not write it!” Sister’s smiling face showed her delight at his remarks. She’d been smiling all day and had been fortified with Mass and our annual Parish Picnic Potluck earlier at the Knights of Columbus Hall, so she was ready to try to find out what a Catholic Revival was. She showed us.

A Prayer was said: “As we celebrate 2000 years since Jesus’ birth, we praise you, we thank you, and we renew ourselves.” The First Reading was Leviticus 25:1-12. The Lord told Moses that for six years the Israelites should sow fields and prune vineyards, gathering in produce. “But during the seventh year the land shall have a complete rest, a Sabbath for the Lord, when you may neither sow your field nor prune your vineyard.” Seven weeks of years shall you count - seven times seven years - so that the seven cycles amount to forty-nine years. Then, on the tenth day of the seventh month let the trumpet resound; on this, the Day of Atonement, the trumpet blast shall resound throughout your land. This fiftieth year you shall make sacred by proclaiming liberty in the land for all its inhabitants. It shall be a jubilee for you. Thus, we have been told by our Father to



**On the fourth night of the Revival, this crowd gathered for the reception afterwards. In the center of the photo, Mary Ann Dowdy of St. Leo’s is talking with one of the speakers for that night, Rev. Ann Marie Montgomery from First Presbyterian Church in Murray. Haas Photo**

celebrate Jubilee.

Next, the flute and piano accompanied us as we sang MAKE US A EUCHARISTIC PEOPLE. The song tells us to be debt forgiving, Sabbath resting, peace receiving, justice loving, neighbor mending, Eucharistic, and spirit living people. Sister then read the Gospel: Luke 4: 14-21. (You’ve heard those verses — we see Jesus reading from Isaiah, and then, He said to the listeners in the synagogue, “Today this scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing.”) That Isaiah quote Jesus read ends with ‘and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord.’ Thus again we are told to celebrate Jubilee.

Here’s quotes from Sister Mary Margaret that Sunday night. “We gather to celebrate Jubilee, to listen to that Word and respond to that Word every day of our lives. ‘Jesus is our Jubilee (life, dying, rising, and sent His Spirit) and we CAN become Jubilee to God’s people! The Gospel is our Lifeline to God and it is written by witnesses we can rely on. Jesus the Master Teacher told in synagogue why He could cure on Sabbath — He healed because God anointed Him to heal.’”

Sister began to pace up and down the center aisle, becoming more vibrant to us with her knowledge of the Bible. When she asked, “How did Jesus spend His free time?” We found ourselves searching our scant knowledge of the New Testament silently. What could be the answer to that question? Sister supplied the answer. She told us simply. She spoke as if she’d just asked Jesus, our Brother, before she’d walked into the Church! “I have tried to find out. He’d been healing and teaching. He spent His free

time talking to God, His Father. Jesus talked about His frustrations, like, “Am I getting through to them?”

Dressed in white, she kept our attention also by her busy body language and hands moving to illustrate her message. She is a riveting and vibrant speaker.

Sister told us ways to celebrate Jubilee and to observe Sabbath. She said that it takes a lot of courage, is really tough, and to try anyway. She explained how the Israelites had to pay 40 per cent tax and if they could not pay, the head of the house went to prison, while the family scraped to find the money owed. A time of Jubilee became a time for debt forgiving, to the Israelites. And so when we ask “Our Father” in the prayer to “forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors” (I know, Catholics say “trespass”) we are reminding ourselves to forgive others and not hold grudges.

“Also, Peace and Justice is another challenge this week: we need to love peace and justice - do something for prisoners, sweat shop workers, anyone under oppression, release captives, work for freedom. Everything we are and we have is God’s Gift.”

“Can we be generous enough to return to our brothers and sisters some of our money and talents to be members of the Body of Christ? We come to the Altar responding to the Invitation, CELEBRATE, JUBILEE; remember to sing, dance, rejoice, do it for each other.”

At that, we all moved up the middle aisle to be Anointed with oil on foreheads by either

## Open the Door to Jubilee....*continued from page 7*

Father Ray, Sister Mary Matthias Ward, or Sister Mary Margaret. We heard, "I anoint you to bring good news to the poor." The final prayer asked God to "Let us be a sign of your presence to the world!" As Sister left the Church the song was JOIN IN THE DANCE. We sang our hearts out and had the flute, the piano, the trombone, and 2 trumpets joining us. Join in the dance of the earth's jubilation! This is the feast of the love of God. Shout from the heights to the ends of creation: Jesus the Savior is risen from the grave! None on earth, no prince or power, neither death nor life, nothing can ever part us from the love of Christ! This was a highly appropriate way to begin our Catholic Revival in the year of Jubilee.

Pope John Paul II had told the world in his homily during Midnight Mass: "Be for us the Door which leads us into the mystery of the Father. Grant that no one may remain outside His embrace of mercy and peace! 'Hodie natus est nobis Solvator mundi': It is Christ who is our only Savior! This is the message of Christmas 1999: The 'today' of this Holy Night begins the Great Jubilee."

As the Revival continued for three more nights, St. Leo's parishioners learned more about how to celebrate Jubilee. I will explain briefly what happened.

On Monday we welcomed Reverend Herman Toles, who is currently the Shepherd/Founder of the Blessed Hope Missionary Baptist Church in St. Louis, Missouri. He is a powerful preacher. He spoke to us with concern for the oppressed peoples of the world. But, he also said, "I want to talk tonight of times of great joy." He said that we should be ready to hop on board the Jubilee train! The VOS singers, who'd traveled to Murray from Hopkinsville, honored us with the "Amen's" and "Alleluias" sung energetically. Rev. Toles read us Isaiah, Chapter 55, verse 12. His topic was: "Jubilee From an African-American Baptist Perspective."

On Tuesday we welcomed Pulpit Minister John Dole from Murray's Glendale Church of Christ. As the parking lot filled early the ladies who supplied food and drink for the fine receptions in Parish Center began to hope they had enough! As usual they had plenty. We had all pews full as many Glendale Church of Christ members came to support both John Dale and our Revival. His topic was "Jubilee--What We Can Do Here in Murray/Calloway County?" His first words were, "Our being here is a very special occasion." Continuing, he explained that we do some things differently, and thanked us for

inviting him. "I appreciate this opportunity. Father had told me," just come do whatever you want to do, say whatever you want to say. I trust you. You are not on trial. I appreciate that. You are very warm and welcoming."

He urged us all to continue to work together. He reminded us that Jesus's blood was shed for all. He read Isaiah 53 to explain how the peoples waited for the Messiah! Christ would come and bring about freedom from sin and blood shed for all to come before and after. "Christ shed His blood for all mankind - no exceptions," John said, and continued with praise for our community. He also had admonitions: go and sin no more. We were treated to a cappella singing as Song Director Curtis Darnall from Glendale Church led us all in seven songs; St. Leo's rafters rang with enormous voice power.

On Wednesday evening the Reverends Ann Marie and David Montgomery, who are co-pastors with the First Presbyterian Church in Murray, gathered the congregation together with studying how to broaden the focus worldwide efforts to cancel worldwide debts. They'd reminded us that Christ died for us - in Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thus, we should study how to try to forgive/cancel worldwide debts. Members of Murray State University's Presbyterian Student Ministry showed us large cardboard boxes with huge sums detailed on each box. These represented the debts various poor countries of the world owe. We were told to work for debts to be forgiven. Again, the theme of forgiveness ... as we have been forgiven, so shall we forgive others.

For music Wednesday evening St. Leo's John Young played the organ for some of the songs. Rev. David Montgomery played his guitar for some songs, also.

Without exception the Catholic Revival was worth every minute of the time of those who attended. We've been inspired. It was sweetly unique to have the Preachers from other denominations visit and speak in a Catholic Church. It was sweetly unique that we could have four different modes of music.

We thank Father Ray Goetz and others who proposed the idea of having "A Catholic Revival" in Murray this year. This writer was honored to videotape the last three evenings of the revival, as per Father's request.

*Carolyn Haas is a member of St. Leo's Parish in Murray, Kentucky*

## LIGHT ONE CANDLE

### First, Do No Harm

By Msgr. Thomas J. McSweeney, The Christophers

*"It's better to light one candle than curse the darkness."*

Back in 1945, Father James Keller, M.M., the founder of The Christophers, chose this Chinese proverb as the organization's motto. He wanted it to remind people to keep the accent on the positive.

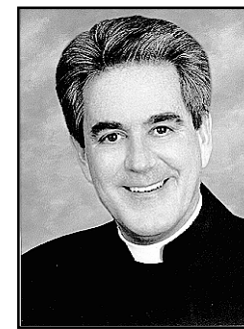
Fr. Keller was known for his idealism, but he also had a reputation as a very practical man. I think that's why he often advised people that, no matter what the circumstances, "Don't make a situation worse."

At first glance, those don't seem to be very hopeful or even helpful words. After all, can't we do better than that? Can't we do something good rather than simply avoiding what's bad or wrong, or just a mistake? I think it takes a certain amount of maturity to realize that just as people have a great capacity for accomplishment, we also have the potential for failure, even when we have the best intentions. That's just part of being a living, breathing member of the human race.

A translation of the ancient Hippocratic oath of physicians includes the admonition, "First, do no harm." This is a good starting point for us, whoever we are and whatever we do. Before we can build something up, we may first have to stop ourselves from tearing something down.

The coming of Advent brings a wonderful reminder of someone who chose to "do no harm" and wound up part of God's greater plan for our good.

We know the story of the Annunciation, when the angel Gabriel appeared to Mary to tell her that she would bear a child who would be the Messiah, the Son of God. Her wholehearted agreement, her "Yes" to God, has resounded through history. But Joseph,



Msgr. Tom McSweeney

too, said "Yes," after he first said "No" to hurting his beloved betrothed, Mary.

The Gospel of Matthew (1: 19) tells us that "Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly."

The alternative could have been far worse than disgrace. Joseph would have been within his rights if he had sanctioned Mary's death by stoning for the sin of adultery.

The story continues after he made his decision to keep what he saw as a terrible, painful situation from turning into a tragedy: "But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.'" (Matthew 1:20-21)

So Joseph chose God's plan for his own and became the head of the Holy Family.

During Advent, many people prepare for the coming of Christ by special prayers and acts of charity and penance. Consider adding your determination to do good by first doing no harm: keep silent when you could make a hurtful comment; listen when you would rather talk; think things through before jumping to conclusions; pause and reflect before taking action.

You might even restrain yourself from cursing the darkness. And then light one candle.

*For a free copy of the Christopher News Note, LIVING THE GOOD LIFE - WHY VALUES MATTER, write to The Christophers, 12 East 48th Street, New York, NY 10017*

## Charismatic Liturgy

Precious Blood Church, 3306 Fenmore Street, Owensboro, KY  
Second Friday of each month at 7:00 P.M.

December 8, 2000 is a Holy Day. There is no Charismatic Mass so we all can attend Mass in our own parishes this day.

Any questions, call Peggy Clark at 1-270-771-4012

May the passion of Jesus and The Sorrows of Mary

Be ever in our Hearts  
So we can live our lives in Peace, joy, and love.



## Diocese

## “Fusco Takes Charge”

By Joey Kneer

PADUCAH, KY - Mr. Tom Fusco accepted the challenge to “improve and sustain the St. Mary School System” when he signed on as the new System Director. Mr. Fusco will work with the Education Committee to plan and implement system-wide improvement in addition to carrying out the day-to-day operation of the school system. To assist in the improvement of St. Mary, Mr. Tony Di Caprio from Kirby-Smith Associates has been hired to conduct a comprehensive assessment of the school system.

As a retired educator from the McCracken County Public Schools, Mr. Fusco steps up to the director’s position after three years as the St. Mary’s Middle and High School Dean of Students. His extensive experience in the education field gives St. Mary a qualified and enthusiastic leader to tackle the obstacles that the school faces. Mr. Fusco’s priorities include teacher enhancement. Having replaced eight of forty-two full-time faculty positions this school year, Mr. Fusco hopes to “open the doors next year with the same faculty and staff.” He wants to provide these teachers with more supplies and classroom materials in a facility that is well maintained and equipped with up-to-date technology despite the problems of a 1965 building that needs many improvements in addition to upgrades in the heating/air-conditioning and lighting systems.

Mr. Fusco’s goals to purchase additional teaching materials, improve technology, and maintain St. Mary’s aging buildings will require increased revenue, but Mr. Fusco said he is “not looking to do this through increased tuition.” He instead looks to capitalize on untapped financial resources such as alumni contributions, and the additional revenue that increased enrollment will generate. Mr. Fusco emphasizes that current students are critical to improving enrollment. He says, “The high school is so visible in the community, and its students are the best salespeople for St. Mary.”

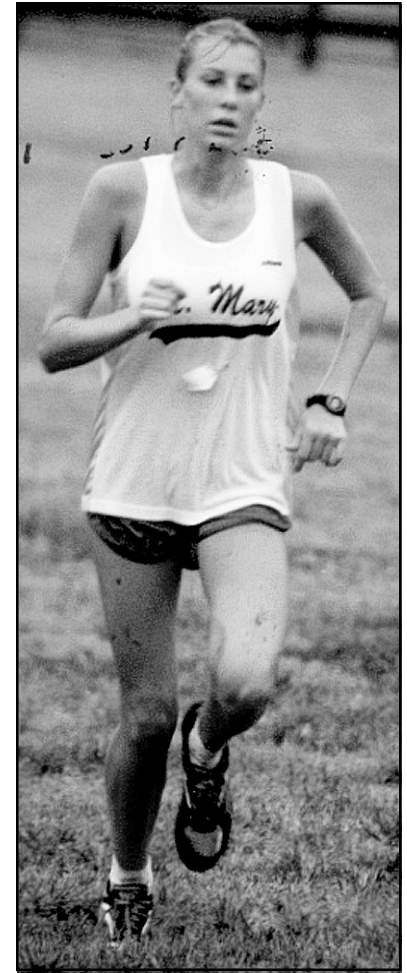
Mr. Fusco’s goals for improvement and his can-do attitude complement the hiring of a private consultant to give St. Mary what Mr. Fusco describes as



**Tom Fusco, left, St. Mary School System Director, talks with Tony DiCaprio a representative of Kirby-Smith Associates. Submitted photo**

“an objective look at the school system.” Mr. Di Caprio has spent time in the elementary and middle schools, and is in the high school this week to observe classes, meet with students, parents, and teachers, and hold a town hall meeting. He will collect data in areas related to Mr. Fusco’s goals in addition to other topics such as academics, community involvement, development, marketing, and the mission of St. Mary.

Mr. Fusco emphasizes, “St. Mary is a great place, we just want to make it a little better.” With the help of Mr. Di Caprio’s report which is due in mid-December, Mr. Fusco will steer the Viking ship in a direction that will “improve and sustain” St. Mary for years to come.



**Above: Jackie Wagner, an SMHS cross country runner, was recognized by the National Amateur Athletic Union for her participation in the Kentucky Championship Team which won the 1999 national meet. Submitted photo**

## Souer Marie Jude Celebre Le Jubile

By Kavita Manchikanti

PADUCAH, KY - “Never!” That’s how often in the past fifty years that French teacher Sister Mary Jude has regretted her decision to become a sister. This is Sister’s “Jubilee Year” commemorating fifty years in the Ursuline Order. She has taught for forty-nine years of those years, twenty-one here at St. Mary.

Born and raised in Owensboro, Kentucky, Sister recalls many fond memories of her childhood in a family of eleven and of the Ursuline Sisters. “I was taught by Ursulines all my life. Even as a very little girl they were my role models with their happiness and dedication and love of children.”

Sister first felt “the call” to religious life in about the seventh grade. Then, during a retreat in her junior year of high school Sister remembers: “...it fell into place. I knew that’s what God wanted me to do.” This conviction has never wavered during her half-century of devoted service.

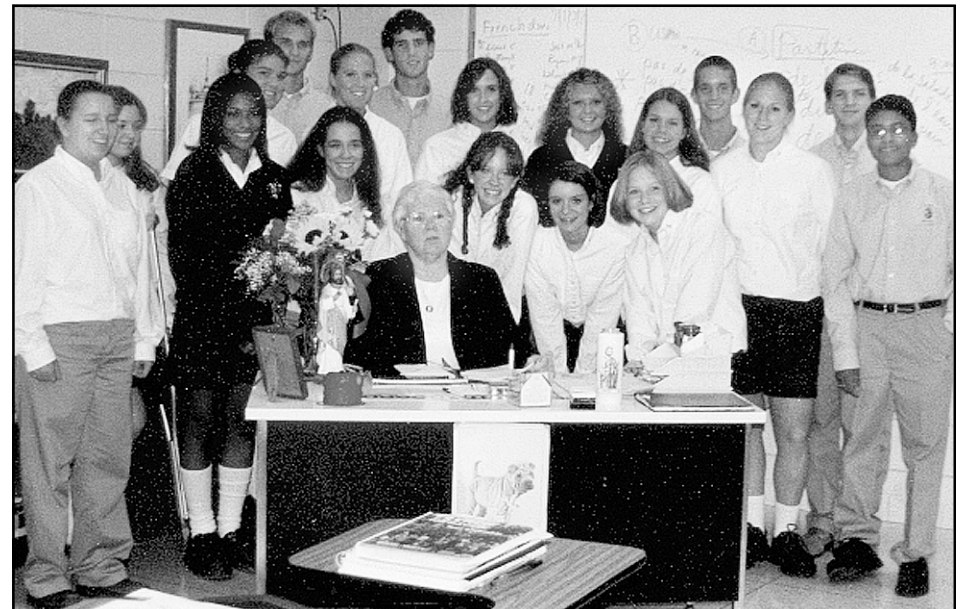
A strong family devotion to St. Jude, especially on the part of her mother, prompted Sister to choose that name when she took her vows and became an Ursuline Sister.

Sister Mary Jude’s teaching career, which began in Paducah in 1955, included a stint as principal at Rosary Chapel Grade School until 1957. She continued as an elementary school teacher and later a French and Religion teacher at the high school level. St. Mary became her “home” in 1969 and except for an absence of eleven years (1974-1985), Sister Mary Jude has been a part of the school ever since.

She tries to balance a rigorous teaching schedule including French I-IV and AP French with some personal time. “I love to sing, to read, to write letters, to work in my garden and to sleep late on Saturday.”

In analyzing her years of experience Sister notes that students are still “loyal, hardworking, and caring” in spite of the many social and cultural challenges children face in contemporary life. Of her students, Sister says, “I love them and they know it. I try to be there for them and I think they know I am here for them. I expect a lot from them academically, and it doesn’t seem to hurt them.”

Perhaps Sister Mary Jude’s personal philosophy can best be summed up in the fol-



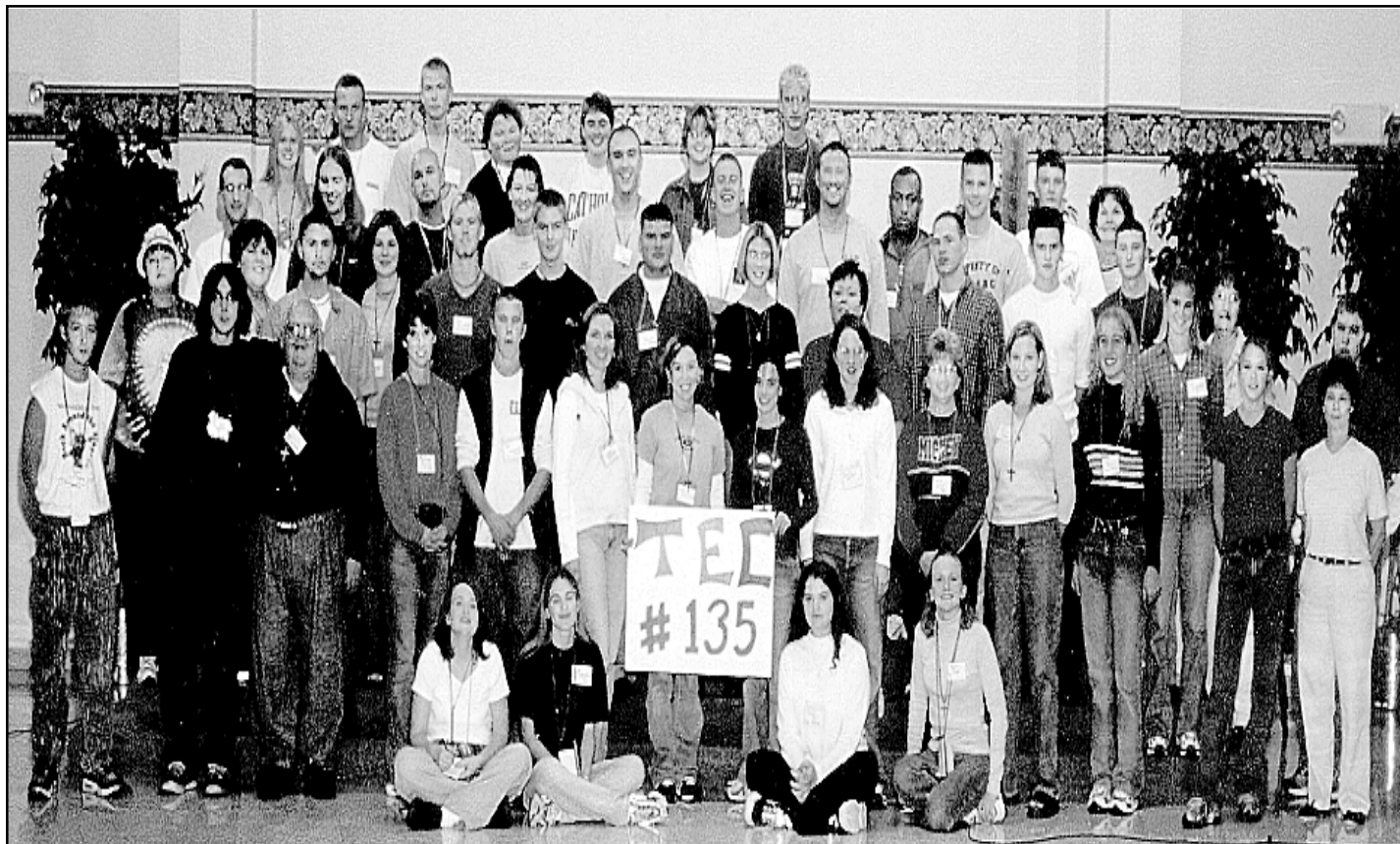
**Sister Mary Jude Cecil, OSU, is shown here with her class at St. Mary High School in Paducah. Submitted photo**

lowing, an excerpt from her favorite prayer written by Mother Teresa:

“Let me preach to You not by words but by

my example, by the sympathetic influence of what I do the evident fullness of the love my heart bears to you.”

# TEC #135



Pictured for TEC # 135 are:

**Row 1:** Starr Davis, Lisa Thompson, Jessica Cecil, Rachel Aud.

**Row 2:** Ruben Ellegood, Brian Cecil, Fr. Freddie Byrd, Melinda Prunty, "Sloppy" Joe Havelda, Laura Hancock, Lori Trowbridge, Krystal Fowler, Breanna Bickett, Denise Long, Julie Naviaux, Dana Boone, Allison Buckman, Susie Buckman.

**Row 3:** Mary Danhauer, Elizabeth Wells, Andy Manley, Ann Sitarski, Jake Cleavenger, Guido Voelhe, Joey Blazina, Sarah Buckman, Libby Downs, George French, John Michael Ford, Brian Greenwell, Lori Hancock.

**Row 4:** Matt Monsour, Joseph Calvert, Dane Stallings, Ashley Williams, Adam Funk, Robby Thompson, Tom Holcomb Jr., Zach Smith, John Coomes, Matt Thomson, Ellen Buckman, Cecelia Buckman, Joe Willett.

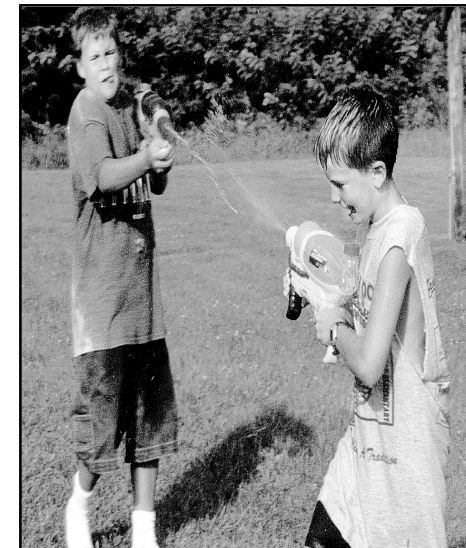
**Row 5:** Angela Thompson, Eddie Caldwell, Jeremy Howard, Sr. Alicia Commes, OSU, Kim Beaudette, Kim Wedding, Chris "Ferfer" French.

**Not pictured:** Amber Dempsey

## How to beat the heat...

The Christmas Season may fast be approaching but these pictures reflect a happiness that all seasons of the year can produce. Shown in the photos at right are Hancock County youth from Immaculate Conception and St. Columba Parishes as they cool off in the July heat with a wild water fight and delicious ice-cream sundaes.

The group picture from St. Columba and Immaculate Conception are members all working together for the clean up and repair of a home in the "The Hancock County Annual Repair Affair" last September 23.



Pictured at left for the "Repair Affair Team" are: Front Row : John Snyder, Ben Fleck, Dan Hagman, Frank Pooser, Denise Long. Back Row: Alan Murphy, Sara McManaway, Amanda Fallin, Brandon Johnson, Katie Murphy, Charlene Mingus, Shirley Hagman, Mary Mingus. Submitted photos

**We're hoping to hear from you!**

Western Kentucky TEC (Teen Encounter Christ) will be celebrating its 25th birthday in October, 2001.



We are planning a BIG celebration and hope YOU can join us!

We would like to invite everyone who has made a TEC to join us, but we've lost a few of you through the years. We especially want to honor those who "blazed the trail," and those who helped begin TEC in our Diocese.

If you made TEC in the past and would like to reconnect with old friends, meet new ones, and be apart of our TEC Family again, we need to hear from you.

Please fill out form and send to:  
Sharrie Cinnamond  
104448 Franklin St.  
Whitesville, KY 42378  
Phone: 270.233.5438

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

## MOUNT SAINT JOSEPH CONFERENCE AND RETREAT CENTER

### Meditation Retreat: Advent

Our journey is a never-ending one...there is always a coming and a going. There is always an advent in our life, and during this time there is an Advent in our liturgy. We have celebrated Advent for many years, but every year, Advent graces come to us in a richer way.

Retreat Director: Father Bernard Powers  
Date: December 14, 2000—10 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
Cost: \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door

### REGISTRATION FORM: MEDITATION RETREAT, DECEMBER 14

For further information, contact Kathy McCarty, Director of Facilities, Mount Saint Joseph Center, 8001 Cummings Road, Maple Mount KY 42356-9999. Phone: 270-229-0200, ext. 413.

## Please pray for all of our seminarians

### St Meinrad School of Theology

St Meinrad, IN 47577

Andy Garner	Jim Owen
Al Bremer	Shane Justis
Randy Howard	Ralph Patterson
Doug Blandford	

### Mundelein Seminary

1000 East Maple Avenue

Mundelein IL 60060-1174

Steve Garvin	Matt Shown
Jacob Petri	

### Pontifical College Josephinum

7625 North High Street

Columbus OH 43235-1498

Brandon Williams T. J. Dennison

### St. John Vianney Seminary

2115 Summit Avenue, Mail #5024

St. Paul MN 55105-1095

Jordan Booker	Luke Searcy
Daniel Dillard	Jared Litke

## CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC CONFERENCE/RETREAT

March 9-11, 2001

Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center

+ + + + + + + + + + + + + + +

*"Using the Gifts in Our Daily Life"*

**Major Speakers:** Most Rev. Sam G. Jacobs, D.D.,  
Bishop of Alexandria, Louisiana  
Arlene Apone, chair, Association of Diocesan  
Liaisons to the Catholic Charismatic Renewal

**Schedule:** Registration 5 p.m. CST Friday, March 9.  
Program begins at 7 p.m.

**Cost:** Residents, \$130, including program, materials, meals,  
socials, overnight accommodations.  
Commuters, \$95, including program, materials, meals, socials.

*To hold a reservation, a \$35 per person nonrefundable deposit is required by February 19, 2001.*

For further information, contact Kathy McCarty,  
Director of Facilities, Mount Saint Joseph Center,  
8001 Cummings Road, Maple Mount KY 42356-9999.  
Phone: 270-229-0200, ext. 413.

### You are Invited to Attend

## The Death Penalty & the Common Good

Is the death penalty good for our community, our state, our nation?

**Featured Guest**  
**Francis Cardinal George,**  
**Archbishop of Chicago**

**Monday, February 26, 2001**  
**The Victory Theatre**  
**600 Main Street**  
**Evansville, Indiana**

**Noon - 1:00 PM Admission Free**

**Sponsored by the Council of Priest and the Diocesan Pastoral Council of the Diocese of Evansville, Indiana.**

**Questions? Call the Office of Communications, 812.424.5536**

Post speech breakout sessions will be offered 1:30-2:30. These include:

\* *The Legislative Process and the Death Penalty*, presented by Indiana Citizens Against the Death Penalty.

\* *Guided Discussion of Reaction to Cardinal George's Speech* presented by the Diocese of Evansville.

\* *Talking About the Death Penalty at Work, School, Parish and Home*, presented by Indiana Catholic Conference.

"We should not expect simple or easy solutions to what is a profound evil (murder), and even less should we rely on capital punishment to provide such a solution." --Pope John Paul II, *Evangelium Vitae*, 1995

### Sacred Heart School of Theology

7335 SHwy 100

Hales Corner WI 53130-0429

Mark Buckner

### Pastoral Year

Jason McClure

Holy Name Church

511 Second Street

Henderson KY 42420

## Help Yourselves At Holiday Time

**From the Family Life Office: Betty Medley Bereavement Director**

For many people the holiday season is anything but tinsel, glitter and fancy presents.

Beginning with Thanksgiving, we are led to believe that all people have nothing but intact families eating and celebrating with each other. This is "family time." For those who are hurting, the constant reminder of "I'll Be Home for Christmas" can be very painful. Listed below are some ideas and suggestions to help...remembering always that we are celebrating Thanksgiving for the blessings we have and Christmas for the greatest gift of all: Our Savior, Jesus Christ.

1. Family get-together may be difficult. Being honest about sharing feelings may help.

2. Plan the holidays together. Face realistically the economic and/or separation

difficulties that you have.

3. Children may need some special help - they may not understand unless someone

is gentle and understanding in explaining their particular family situation.

4. Be careful of "should." For some families, maintaining tradition is important; for others new celebrations might be helpful.

5. Shopping can be emotionally upset-

ting. The family may need to set limits on spending. A family spending plan could be developed.

6. When there is difficulty, it is especially painful to hear and answer to "Happy Holidays" or "Merry Christmas." You might answer "The best to you also" or some other appropriate response.

7. Friends may be a support system if you allow them to know your concerns and apprehensions. Tell them this is a difficult time for you.

8. Set limitations that are realistic on entertaining, sending cards, decorations, and baking. People will understand.

9. Some people fear crying in public. You can be gentle with yourself and others, realizing that crying will help some people to feel better.

10. Emotionally, physically and psychologically, holiday time is draining: enough rest and relaxation time is important.

### SPECIFIC SUGGESTIONS FOR THE HOLIDAY

*"The worst thing a person can do is brave it alone. It makes the day 48 hours long."*

Some practical suggestions:

1. Volunteer to work at the Salvation Army or in a Soup Kitchen.
2. Join two families to share the work and expense.
3. Have an "orphan" dinner (with several singles sharing dinner together).
4. Organize a group to go out to dinner.
5. Get up early - eat breakfast out - exercise for several hours  
-sleep from noon to 5 pm - go to a movie in the evening.
6. Join a relative or friends for dinner.
7. Deliver "Meals on Wheels" for the day.
8. Invite a poor family to your house for dinner.
9. Plan a shopping trip, a hunting or fishing trip or a cruise with friends.
10. Set up a Bowl Game House Party.

## The Ultimate Gift

**Submitted by Kathy Kleinhenz, RN CPTC**

On April 5, 1997 Philip Keenan, from Hardinsburg, was admitted to Norton Hospital in Louisville after experiencing an intracranial hemorrhage. His family was informed by the neurosurgeons that he would not survive. He was pronounced brain dead and his family was approached about the possibility of organ and tissue donation.

Tobie Keenan, Philip's wife, and Pam Pollock, his daughter, knew what he would want them to decide since they had talked about organ donation in the past. Don Zinno and Kathy Kleinhenz, Hospital Services Coordinators from Kentucky Organ Donor Affiliates (KODA) spoke with his family and they consented to donation. This unselfish act was indicative of how Philip Keenan had lived.

Because of their generosity, Philip's liver was transplanted into a 43 year old gentleman from Kentucky who was married and the father of 4 children. One kidney went to a 40 year old woman and the other went to a 67 year old woman. Both were from Kentucky and had been on dialysis for several years.

All the transplants were successful. In addition to



**Photo above: Tobie Keenan, Kathy Kleinhenz (KODA Coordinator), Jean Cash (Kidney recipient) and Pam Pollack**

his liver and both kidneys, his corneas were transplanted which restored sight to two individuals. Many other lives were enhanced by the donation of Philip's heart valves and leg veins.

As time passed the Keenan family chose to communicate anonymously with the recipients and did receive some letters in response. One recipient in particular

continued to write to Tobie and after two years the two were able to meet.

Since that first meeting, Tobie Keenan and her family have kept in contact with Jean Cash from Fancy Farm. Jean had received Philip's kidney which had enabled her to return to start life again without the aid of dialysis.

Both families continue their campaign

**For more information on organ donations you may contact:**

# KODA

## Kentucky Organ Donor Affiliates

### 1-800-525-3456

for organ donation and on May 8, 2000, spoke at a seminar in Louisville sponsored by Kentucky Organ Donor Affiliates entitled "Making the Critical Difference."

The seminar was a chance for the nurses that attended not only to explore their own feelings about donation but to hear what a difference this decision made to the Keenan and Cash families. Jean also marched in the Derby Parade alongside the float sponsored by KODA and Jewish Hospital.

# Looking at Disability in a New Light

A new definition of disability developed by the National Catholic Office for Persons with Disabilities asserts that: "disabilities are the normal and anticipated outcome of the risks, strains and stresses of the living process itself."

A love which accepts life as a gift also accepts the given limits on our lives.

The conceptual lenses through which we have traditionally viewed our own and others' vulnerabilities distort and frighten us.

The old prescriptions blur our vision of our need to foster interdependency. The assaults upon life move forward because so few of us are knowledgeable or comfortable enough to speak out positively about the power of the powerless and the potential of those who are disabled. Against this sketchy background, let us quickly examine a few conceptual lenses which will allow us to glimpse the potential of those with disabilities:

1: A shifting paradigm replaces the medical model, which sees those with impairments as "patients" whose needs must be met in "special" ways, with a political socio-economic alternative which conceptualizes the environment as the handicapping factor.

2: A new definition asserts: "Disabilities" are the normal and anticipated outcome of the risks, strains and stresses of the living process itself. Therefore, the condition ceases to be merely an individual tragedy and becomes an expectation within any community.

3: The symbol of the Cross is essential to our Faith. But we are the Easter people who look beyond Calvary to the sunrise of that glorious Resurrection. The old association of disabilities with the suffering Christ can be expanded to include the miracles of rehabilitation as small reminder of His Resurrection. Thus we confirm we are a part of His Body.

4: Each time words of pity target those with disabilities the message of inclusion is blunted. Pity limits shames and never elevates the one toward whom it is directed. It is an unwanted projection of society's fear and discomfort. Respectful compassion and mutual recognition of our shared fragility must replace it if we are to become united as people of God.

**Christine Mulligan of St. Mary Magdalene Church in Sorgho, uses the elevator and ramp within the Catholic Pastoral Center to visit offices in the diocesan center. Staff Photo.**



## The Lifting Up Mass at Immaculate

**A Lifting Up Mass at The Immaculate Parish in Owensboro was held on October 8, at the 10:00 AM Mass. The parish Social Concerns committee sponsors the annual event held on Respect Life Sunday. It is a mass that is celebrated with those members of the faith with special needs. This photograph was taken at a reception following the Mass.**



**Franklin Dowell of Owensboro navigates Frederica Street in his wheelchair as traffic buzzes around him. He was taking a risk here, but don't we all when we take to the streets in a vehicle? Staff Photo**

5: The fifth lens is pivotal if we are to justify the challenge of this new orientation, for a new prescription calls for a lens which can focus on the power of human vulnerability. Until we recognize this trait as valuable to the health of any organization, we will lack motivation to alter our current patterns of exclusion and separateness.

We can destroy the old prejudices through a united resolve to smash the conceptual lenses which blurred our vision of the power of human vulnerability. We must constantly remind ourselves that God's gift of life is placed in fragile

earthen vessels to a powerful purpose. We have only to recognize and celebrate that reality and it will free us from past fears. There is wisdom in vulnerability and it will bind us together powerfully, if we will only look at the reality with fresh vision.

*From a paper delivered by Mary Jane Owen to the Seventh International Conference of the Pontifical Council for Pastoral Care to Health Care Workers in Vatican City on November 20, 1992. Reprinted with permission of the National Catholic Office for Persons with Disabilities.*



*On Sunday, December 10, at 3 p.m. people around the world will bring the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe to abortion sites, asking Our Lady to intercede for unborn children.*

## Jubilee 2000

# Our Lady of Guadalupe Image to go Worldwide

### Our Lady of Guadalupe Mission

On Sunday, December 12, 1999 banners of Our Lady of Guadalupe were carried to over 2/3 of the abortion sites in the United States, while thousands peacefully petition Our Lady to intercede for unborn children. Our Holy Father, John Paul II, has invoked God's blessings upon the associates of this mission, and Bishops across the country have given their support.

In Jubilee 2000, the Mission is to bring an image of Our Lady of Guadalupe to abortion sites around the world on Sunday, December 10, at 3 p.m., in anticipation of her feast day.

In 1531, Our Lady appeared to Blessed Juan Diego in what is now Mexico City, leaving a miraculous image of herself on his cloak.

Within a decade, millions were baptized and the practice of human sacrifice ended. She said to Blessed Juan Diego: "I am your merciful Mother, the Mother of all who live united in this

land, and of all mankind, of all those who love me, of those who cry to me, of those who have confidence in me...Am I not your Mother? Are you not under my shadow and protection?...Is there anything else you need?"

On his visit to Mexico in January 1999, our Holy Father elevated the liturgical celebrations of Our Lady of Guadalupe to the rank of Feast and encouraged the Americas to embrace her as their Patroness. When in Denver he stated, "America, defend life! Do not be afraid to go out on the streets and into public places..."

All people of good will are invited to join in asking Our Lady of Guadalupe to intercede for unborn children on Sunday, December 10, Jubilee 2000, at 3 p.m. As in 1999, these peaceful gatherings will respect the limitations established by law.

### About Our Lady of Guadalupe, Inc.

*Our Lady of Guadalupe, Inc. was founded by Deanna Aikman, a 42 year old woman afflicted with Lou Gehrig's Disease, or Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis. Deanna is a mother of 3 and is known for speaking out against the 1998 ballot proposal in Michigan which would have legalized physician-assisted suicide. She is the recipient of the 1999 Catholic Campaign for America's Award for promoting devotion to the Eucharist.*

Contact Ms. Aikman at Our Lady of Guadalupe, Inc.,

Box 524, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48106-0524.

Tele:-734-930.7481 Fax:-734-930-7484. email: [guadalupe@rc.net](mailto:guadalupe@rc.net). website: [www.guadorg.org](http://www.guadorg.org).

### To obtain an Image of Our Lady of Guadalupe contact:

Life Foundation Canada, PO Box 1253, Vernon, B.C. V1T6N6. 250.503-2457

Missionary Image of OL of G, 144 Sheldon, St. Albans, VT 05478. 888-834-6261

National Shrine of OL of G, 501 Ridge Ave., Allentown, PA 18102. 610-433-4404

Basilica De Guadalupe, Plaza de las Americas 1, Mexico City, Mexico

# Our Holy Father's Prayer

O Mary, bright dawn of the new world, Mother of the living, to you do we entrust the cause of life: Look down, O Mother, upon the vast numbers of babies not allowed to be born, of the poor whose lives are made difficult, of men and women who are victims of brutal violence, of the elderly and the sick killed by indifference or out of misguided mercy. Grant that all who believe in your Son may proclaim the Gospel of life with honesty and love to the people of our time. Obtain for them the grace to accept that Gospel as a gift ever new, the joy of celebrating it with gratitude throughout their lives and the courage to bear witness to it resolutely, in order to build, together with all people of good will, the civilization of truth and love, to the praise and glory of God, the creator and lover of life. Amen.

--from *The Gospel of Life*, Pope John Paul II, 1995

## Simple Rituals with Blessing Candles Help Families, Groups Uncover Wisdom, Wonder of Faith

People all over the world celebrate rituals to mark solstices and equinoxes, births, personal and religious milestones, marriages, anniversaries and death. Rituals allow us to remember our past, hope for the future, live in the now and mark important events, no matter how painful, as celebrations of human becoming and faith.

*The Blessing Candles: - 58 Simple Mealtime Prayer-Celebrations* by Gaynell Bordes Cronin and Jack Rathschmidt, O.F.M. Cap. (St. Anthony Messenger Press, 2000, ISBN 0-86716-379-8, paper, 144 pages, \$8.95), invites people to light two candles and pray together to uncover the wonder and wisdom of faith in family or group gatherings. Each of the 58 prayer-celebrations includes a gathering prayer, the ritual of lighting two candles, an inspirational reading and a prayerful response to it, reflection questions and a sending prayer. The rituals can be used to bless home or vehicles or friendship; to bless special needs like career decisions or hurt feelings; to bless special

occasions such as birthdays or a graduation; and to bless secular and religious feasts like Christmas and Mother's Day.

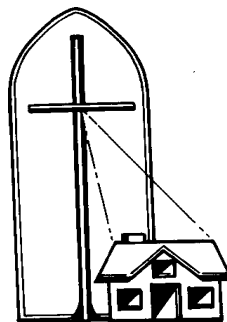
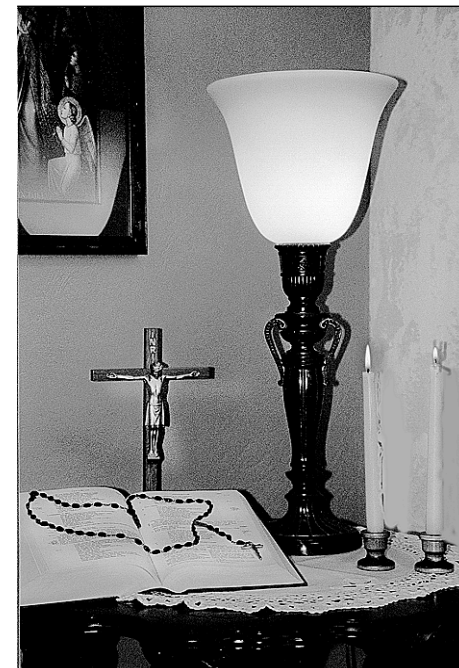
Convinced by their memories and experience that there is a richness and holiness in every household, Cronin and Rathschmidt created *The Blessing Candles* to honor the past, hope for a faith-filled future and, through the gesture of lighting candles, live faithfully in the present.

"Almost everyone we know, with a little prodding, can remember rituals from their childhood that not only gave them a deep sense of belonging to family, but also offered them a way of saying who they were," write Cronin and Rathschmidt. "Light is an especially important dimension of life and celebration. Who does not feel gratitude as dawn comes after an especially difficult night or know the joy of lighting birthday candles for children and adults alike?"

Gaynell Bordes Cronin is a retreat director and religious educator focusing on ritual and family spirituality. She is the author of the sacramental programs *Table of the Lord and Forgiveness of the Lord* and the award-winning *Friend Jesus: Prayers for Children* (St. Anthony Messenger Press).

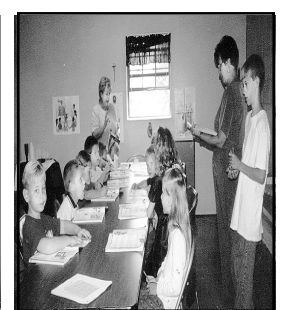
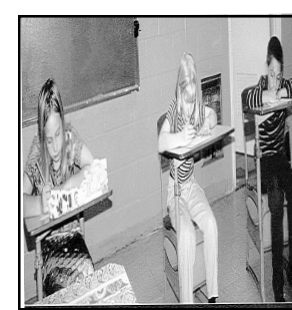
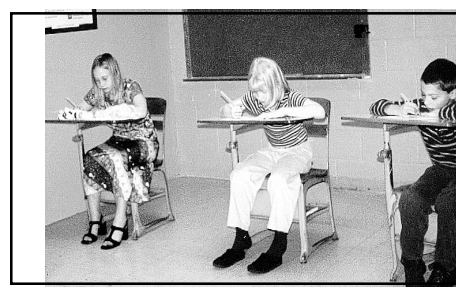
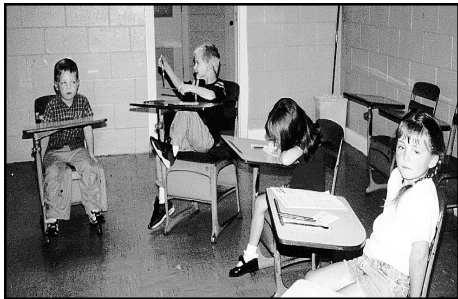
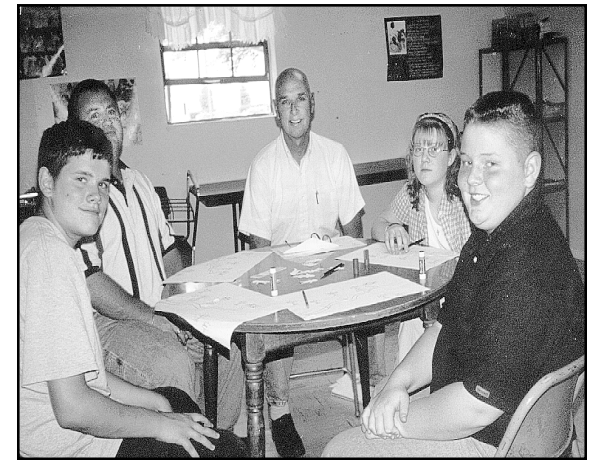
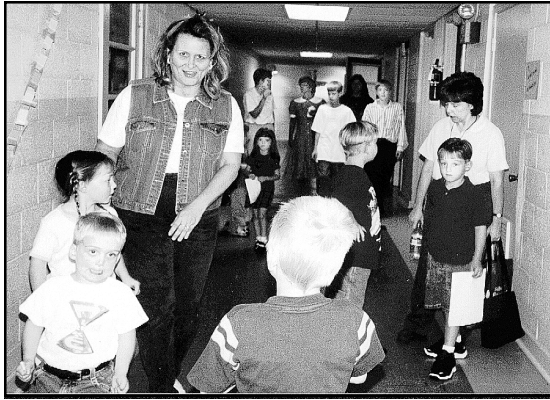
Jack Rathschmidt, O.F.M. Cap., is chaplain and adjunct theology professor at The College of New Rochelle, New York, as well as a writer, lecturer and religious educator. He and Gaynell Bordes Cronin have collaborated on numerous audio and video projects for the faith formation of adults, families and children.

*The Blessing Candles: 58 Simple Mealtime Prayer-Celebrations* can be ordered from St. Anthony Messenger Press, 1615 Republic St., Cincinnati, OH 45210. To place an order, phone toll-free 1-800-488-0488; to request a review copy, call John Koize, ext. 130. Visit the St. Anthony Messenger Press Web site: [www.AmericanCatholic.org](http://www.AmericanCatholic.org)



## Diocese

## Tri-Parish Catholic Community holds "First Class" on Sept. 24



The Tri-Parish Catholic Communities of St. Anthony Church, Clarkson ; St. Benedict Parish, Wax; and St. Augustine in Grayson Springs held a "First Class" on

Sunday, Sept. 24 after the 8:00 a.m. Mass to promote the new season of religious education classes. The collage of pic-

tures shows the students, catechists and parents who are involved in religious education for these parishes. Information

and pictures submitted by Coreen Moore, Religious Education Director of the Tri-Parish Community.

*Apostleship of Prayer, Sacred Heart of Jesus*

## Our Holy Father's Intentions for December 2000

### My Daily Offering

O Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I offer you my prayers, works, joys and sufferings of this day, in union with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass throughout the world. I offer them for all the intentions of your Sacred Heart: the salvation of souls, reparation for sin, the reunion of all Christians. I offer them for the intentions of our Bishops and of all Apostles of Prayer, and in particular for those recommended by our Holy Father this month. Amen.

### December General Intention

#### Are-awakened commitment to protecting and promoting human life.

Our jubilee 2000 celebration centers on every person's right to live and love. Our Pope, in his World Day of Peace talk in 1999, calls all men and women to protect and promote life.

The right to life is basic for everyone. Life is sacred, because it is a gift from God, and it is unassailable from beginning to end. We shall not kill. Pope John Paul II states in his Encyclical Letter, *Evangelium Vitae* (March

25, 1995), that "The deliberate decision to deprive an innocent human being of life is always morally evil."

A civilization that recognizes the sacredness of life promotes human dignity. Once born, a child should be protected and nurtured. This is especially true for girls in certain cultures, the handicapped, the sick, and the elderly.

We must face the disturbing challenge of genetic engineering to ensure that every stage of research is guarded by ethical reflection safeguarding the sacredness of human life.

We must choose life and reject violence, poverty, hunger, and armed conflict. In all situations, the right to life must be protected.

In his Apostolic letter, *Tertio Millennio Adveniente* (Nov. 10, 1994), Pope John Paul said his duty is to speak out to protect the poor and those pushed to the outer fringes of society.

Jesus tells us to call God Abba (Father). Abba's love for us is infinite and eternal. The prophet Isaiah (49:15-16) speaks tenderly of our Father-

child relationship: "Can a woman forget her baby at her breast or fail to cherish the child of her womb? Yet even if these forget, I will never forget you. See, upon the palms of my hands, I have written your name."

#### For Reflection:

1. How can I work against the areas of violence listed above?
2. With whom can I work to resolve some of this violence?

### December Mission Intention Respect for children's dignity and security.

On March 3, 1998, John Paul II spoke to The International Catholic Child Bureau (I.C.C.B., on its 50th anniversary) in a letter to its President, Mrs. Mijo Beccaria. The Pope refers to the Organization's growth and services to all children. He encourages all people directly or indirectly involved in the I.C.C.B. to protect and promote children's welfare. A review of the world's situation still shows children exploited and degraded in their physiological, intellectual, moral, and spiritual development.

The rampant evidence of oppression is seen most cruelly in the killing of unwanted babies. Whoever welcomes a child, welcomes the Lord (Mt. 18:5). We also see handi-

capped children banished from society and the shameful treatment of the young by selfish and unscrupulous employers. Our Pope calls on civil authorities to protect and educate children and to oppose and eliminate all types of enslaving oppression and mistreatment.

The I.C.C.B. leads in the efforts to correct evils and develop programs to heal children's physical and emotional injuries. Nothing can replace, however, a child's need for two nurturing parents providing a tender, warm, and affectionate home, a proper education, play time, and laughter, all of which enable a child to develop and flourish.

This 50th anniversary is an occasion to encourage all women and men of good will to devote themselves to protect, help, and support all children.

*Apostleship for Prayer, 3 Stephen Avenue,  
New Hyde Park, NY 11040*

*Tele: 1-516-328-9777 Fax: 1-516-328-6039*

*Email: aposprayer@aol.com*

*Web: www.cin.org/ap/*

## Hispanics Participate In Charismatic Mass Held at Precious Blood Parish



In photo at far left, Sr. Mary Thomas, A.D., prays with Angie Thompson of Owensboro and two other women at a Charismatic Liturgy at Precious Blood Church. Near left, Fr. Brian Johnson laid hands on a lady at the Mass. Above, two Hispanic men attend to Mass prayers. Lois Rutigliano photos

**By Lois Rutigliano**

OWENSBORO, KY - On the second Friday of each month a Charismatic Mass is celebrated at Precious Blood Parish, with a different priest presiding at each mass. On Friday, October 14, Fr. Brian Johnson from Holy Spirit Parish in Bowling Green was the celebrant. Recently, members of the Hispanic Community have been attending the Mass and sharing songs of praise to God in their native language. Many in the local community do not speak or understand the language, but they appreciate the joy and enthusiasm the Hispanics express in their singing.

In his homily, Fr. Brian said, "No matter what challenges, or adversity we face, we can be faithful in our witness if we maintain a light hearted spirit. The kingdom of God is upon us, so we need to strengthen ourselves in our faith. A kingdom divided falls, but we can persevere with strength in our faith."

When the Hispanics arrive here to work, many face adversity and challenge due to the language barrier.

Many do not seek medical attention when they are ill, because they are unable to relate their symptoms to medical personal, read labels on medication containers, or food labels to prepare a meal. Many send the money they earn helping farmers harvest their crops home to help support their families or because they want to attend college, so they face many challenges and adversity, yet they maintain a light hearted spirit.

The Charismatic Renewal has grown rapidly and has strong centers at the University of Notre Dame and Michigan. It has spread throughout the United States and other countries. The weekly prayer meeting is the heart of the Charismatic Renewal. There is much spontaneity and the meetings include singing hymns, Scripture readings, and testimonies to the work of the Holy Spirit in one's life. Charismatics believe that the Holy Spirit is manifested through praying in tongues, prophecies, and gifts like healing.

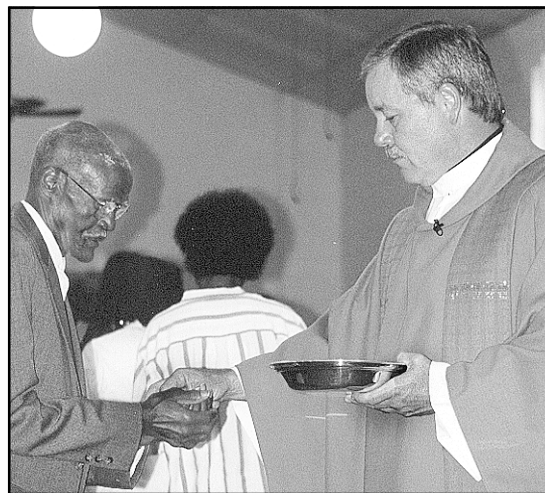
## Precious Blood Parish Building A Community Of Love

**By Lois Rutigliano**

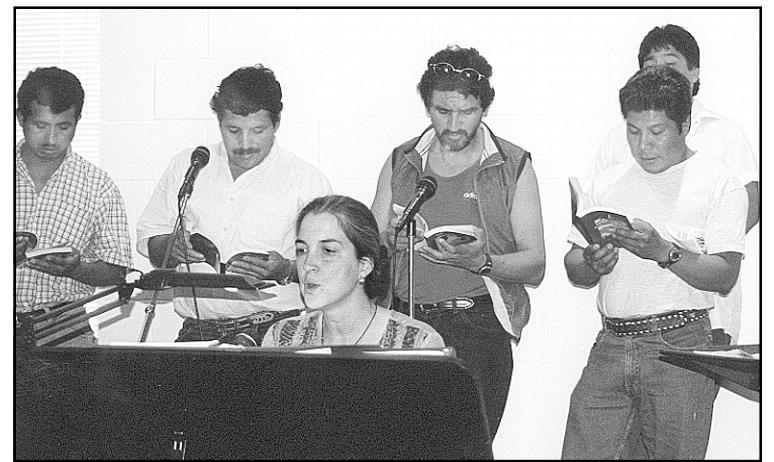
OWENSBORO, KY - The celebration of a bilingual Mass held at Precious Blood Parish on Saturday at 4:30 PM, is building a community of love and friendship by welcoming the Hispanics to the faith community and encouraging them to participate in the Mass. It also presents an excellent learning opportunity for the locals and the Hispanics. The mass offers a wonderful opportunity to meet people of another culture and a chance to learn a new language skill with the help of Sr. Lorraine Lauter, OSU, who taught the mass responses in Spanish to the congregation before the Mass.

Fr. Brad Whistle, pastor of the Parish, reminded those who were present that keeping the commandments was not enough. "We have to do more. When we give people something to eat and clothing to wear in keeping with the commandments, is that enough? No, God wants us to do more, he said."

The Hispanic group and those who spoke English shared the singing honors by alternating singing God's praises, each in his own language.



Fr. Brad Whistle, pastor of Precious Blood Church in Owensboro, presided at a bilingual Mass recently. Here he gave Eucharist to a participant. Lois Rutigliano photo



Sister Lorraine Lauter, OSU, Pastoral Associate at Precious Blood Church lead the singing here with a vocal group of Hispanic men at a recent bilingual Mass in the church. Lois Rutigliano photo

# Bishop McRaith Rededicates Immaculate Heart of Mary Chapel



**Bishop John McRaith rededicated Immaculate Heart of Mary Chapel at Brescia University on October 27, 2000. The Brescia community celebrated its beautiful New Life center. Staff Photos**

**By Mel Howard**

OWENSBORO, KY - Bishop John J. McRaith, D.D., rededicated a renovated Immaculate Heart of Mary Chapel at Brescia University October 27, 2000. This was the third large celebration at Brescia University in the past month; Brescia cut a ribbon on new student dorms and celebrated the Social Work Department's gaining full accreditation last month.

Fr. Leonard Alvey, Chaplain at Brescia University, Fr. Larry Hostetter, campus minister and Master of Ceremonies for the rededication and Fr. Ryan, Director of the Brescia Ministry Formation Program, assisted the Bishop in the ceremony.

Sr. Vivian Bowles, OSU, welcomed the students, faculty, parents, and guests to the renovated chapel and acknowledged the many people who helped accomplish the renovation: Ben Hartz of Hartz Construction; Terry Blake of RBS Design Group; Sr. Lorraine Lauter, OSU, Liturgical Consultant and Artist; Jim Barr, Designer and Woodcrafter; the Chapel Renovation Task Force (Fr. Leonard Alvey, Sr. Mary Henning, OSU, MaryBell Darnell, Fr. Larry Hostetter, Linda Kamuf, Sr. Rose Jean Powers, OSU, Beverly Steele, Sr. Mary Diane Taylor, OSU, and Sr. Vivian Bowles, OSU); and other

construction subcontractors.

The Brescia University Bell Choir and the Brescia University Liturgical Choir provided music for the celebration with the keyboard accompaniment of Mr. Mike Conley and direction of Sr. Mary Henning, OSU. Steven Calhoun and Sarah Murphy played a trumpet and flute.

After a greeting by Sr. Vivian, Bishop McRaith blessed the doors to the chapel and proceeded to the altar located in the center of the worship space to begin a Eucharistic Celebration with the Rite of Dedication of a Church, one of many beautiful and purely joyful Rites in the Church.

The words of this Rite of Dedication and Anointing and Incensation of the altar express central beliefs in the Catholic Church. The Anointing of the Altar with Holy Chrism serves us as the symbol of Christ, the Anointed One. The blessing of the place with incense is "a visible sign that the sacrifice of Christ celebrated there ascends to God as the odor of sweetness and also as a sign that our communal prayers rise up pleasing and acceptable in Christ, reaching the throne of God.

"The incensation of the church," the Rite continues, "is a visible sign that this dedication makes it a house of prayer."

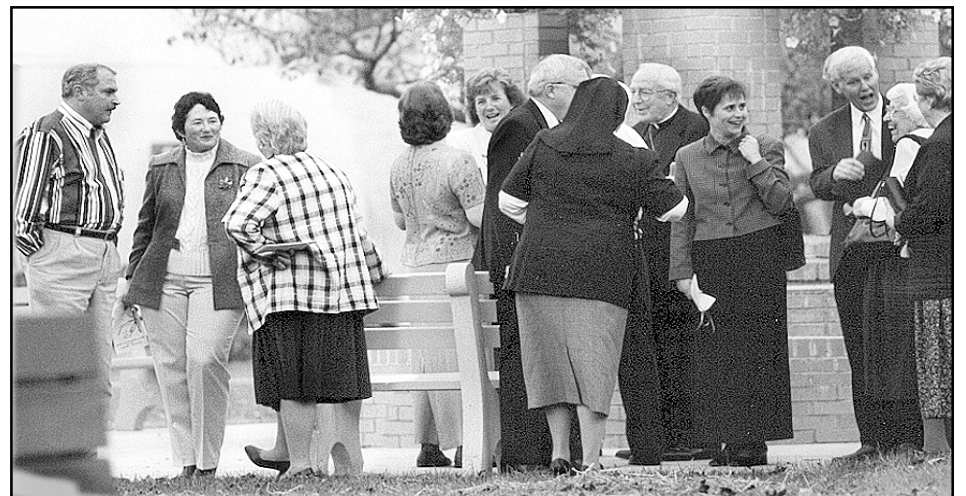
Another part of the words for the Rite of Dedication and the Anointing reflect the mystery of the Church: the Church is fruitful; the Church is holy; the Church is favored, the Church is exalted; more detailed prayers complete each description in the Rite.

"Here may your children," the Bishop proclaims in the Rite, "gathered around your altar, celebrate the memorial of the Paschal Lamb, and be fed at the table of Christ's word and Christ's body."

After Mass, the whole assembly went outside in a warm, sunny, calm Kentucky

October afternoon for refreshments.

Brescia University has celebrated a lot in 1999-2000 as the school celebrated its Fiftieth Anniversary. Students coming from class across the quad or headed to practice took another advantage of food and drink tables. None in the university community was bashful or slow to partake. Faculty, students, staff, building and grounds staff, construction workers, a bishop, priests, many alumni, MSJ Ursuline Sisters, and a few neighborhood kids knew where the action was: Hey, party on, Brescia!



## Holy Angels Elementary Second Graders Learn Fire Safety and Firefighters' Tools At OFD Fire Station



The second grade class at Holy Angels visited the Owensboro Fire Department's 9th street station in late September. The children had a great time learning about fire safety and touring the fire station. The students were also treated to a fire safety movie, popcorn, and drinks. They also participated in a drill in the fire station's



“smokehouse.” Above Bill Hagan, Holy Angels principal, stands at back. At right, everybody got firefighters' hats for this firetruck photo. HA Photo

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

### ANNIVERSARIES FOR DECEMBER, 2000

#### Immaculate, Owensboro

Sherman & Theresa Bolen, 25 years  
Joseph & Nina Mary Strehl, 61 years

#### Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro

Mr & Mrs Robert Clark, 41 years

#### St. Leo, Murray

Mr & Mrs Carol Sue Dick, 27 years  
Mr & Mrs Ted Wasylak, 34 years  
Mr & Mrs Phillip Bryan, 39 years  
Mr & Mrs Robert Ross, 39 years

#### Precious Blood, Owensboro

Pau & Katherine Bickwermer, 57 years  
Roy & Mabel Hodges, 58 years  
John & Fern Thompson, 66 years

#### St. Pius Tenth, Owensboro

Wayne & Martha Carrico, 25 years  
Ray & Peggy Montgomery, 30 years  
Michael & Carolyn Grossi, 40 years  
George & Louise Miles, 61 years

#### St. Stephen, Owensboro

Ronald & Mary Edge, 26 years  
Arthur & Doris Schwartz, 41 years  
Gerald & Bettye Riney, 54 years  
Herman & Mary Taylor, 56 years

#### St. Thomas More, Paducah

Fred & Mary Watson, 25 years  
J.W. & Marcella Romanek, 50 years  
Cliff & Ann Thomasson, 59 years

#### St. Joseph, Mayfield

Joe & Wanda Mike, 54 years  
Sanford & Ernestine Sumner, 54 years  
Elmo & Dalphine Jarboe, 58 years  
Clarence & Jeanette Elliott, 58 years

#### Blessed Mother, Owensboro

Mr & Mrs Thomas Elder, 53 years  
**St. John, Paducah**  
Bill & Mary Lee Anderson, 25 years

#### St. Jerome, Fancy Farm

Mr & Mrs Wilbur Rowe, 25 years  
Mr & Mrs Burce Samples, 25 years  
Mr & Mrs W.B. Kilcoyne, 51 years  
Mr & Mrs Everet Wilson, 65 years

#### St. Joseph, Bowling Green

Michael & Patricia Gentry, 26 years  
James & Phyllis Ann Huggins, 33 years  
Ben & Patty Day, 50 years

#### St. Ann, Morganfield

Mr & Mrs Bobby C. French, 40 years  
Mr & Mrs Larry Brown, 40 years  
Mr & Mrs John F. Coffman, Sr. 53 years  
Mr & Mrs Robert Crowdus, 60 years

#### St. Henry, Aurora

Mr & Mrs Paul Maggard, 57 years

#### St. Columba, Lewisport

Roy & Mabel Hodges, 58 years  
George & Betty Allard, 51 years

#### St. Alphonsus, St. Joseph

Frank & Bernice Thomas, 50 years  
Flaudice & Gertrude Mackey, 57 years  
F.G. & Winnie Riney, 61 years

#### St. Agnes, Uniontown

Gerald & Carole Gough, 40 years  
Richard & Linnie Powell, 50 years

#### St. Mark, Eddyville

Joseph & Bobbie Schafer, 40 years

#### Sacred Heart, Waverly

Henry & Dorothy Cooley, 55 years

#### Sts. Joseph & Paul, Owensboro

Mr & Mrs Robert O'Bryan, 59 years  
Mr & Mrs Ray Bolen, 25 years

#### St. Stephen, Cadiz

Richard & Patricia Gill, 26 years

#### St. Paul, Leitchfield

Derek & Mary Ann Conder, 25 years  
William L. & Edna Drake, 54 years  
Justin & Virginia Clark, 59 years

#### St. Mary Magdalene, Sorgho

Vincent & Mary Pheobe Ebelhar, 60 years

Joseph & Nancy Elder, 70 years

#### St. Peter, Stanley

Mr & Mrs. James Lee Howard, 50 years

#### Immaculate Conception, Hawesville

David & Elizabeth Sterett, 60 years

#### Christ the King, Madisonville

Mr & Mrs Dolan Curren, 68 years

#### St. Joseph, Central City

Carrol & Marianne Meister, 54 years

#### Holy Name, Henderson

Rogelio & Susan Silva, 25 years  
Walter & Martha Campbell, 50 years  
Francis & Eula Jean Pagan, 55 years  
Martin & Elizabeth Schaeffer, 57 years

## St. Mary of the Woods Parish and St. Anthony celebrate Family Jubilee Day

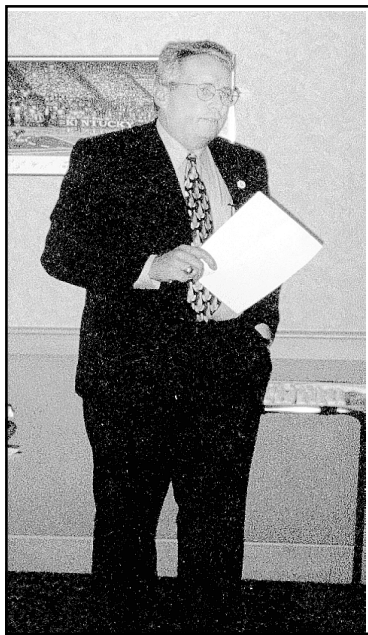


St. Mary of the Woods Parish in McQuady and St. Anthony in Axtel celebrated the Jubilee Day for Families on Sunday, October 15. Families gathered for prayer, a pot luck meal and various games. The parishes, with pastor Fr. Bruce Fogel, have also celebrated Jubilee Days for the Elderly and Jubilee Days for Life. Photo submitted by Sr. Michael Marie of St. Mary of the Woods.

Dio-

## Serrans Walk "In His Steps"<sup>99se</sup>

By Kelly Hedges



Serra Club Membership Director,  
Larry O'Bryan

OWENSBORO, KY - At the Serra Club October 6 meeting at Ryan's Steak House here, our speakers were President Al Thompson and Membership Director Larry O'Bryan. The topic was "In His Steps," a program functioning simultaneously in all Serra clubs in the United States. It is a program to help Serrans become, in fact, the vocation arm of the Church.

In His Steps is a five part program: 1. All Serrans to recommit themselves to Serran ideals. 2. All Serrans to commit themselves to work on specific Serra projects. 3. All clubs to develop a plan for major vocation programs. 4. All clubs to dedicate themselves to building membership and forming new clubs. 5. All clubs to promote spiritual growth and affirmation.

Mr. Thompson asked that each Serran prayerfully think about what active project they might do. Think about what we can do as Serrans to promote the priesthood and to take an active part in promoting vocations.

Larry spoke about the month of October being national membership month. The Owensboro Diocese is blessed with its membership because of prayers and dedication of its members.

## Junipero Serra - Founder of California (1713-1784)

Junipero Serra, founder of the Missions, which were the first settlements of civilized man in California, was born on the island of Majorca, part of the kingdom of Spain, in 1713. At the age of sixteen, he became a Monk of the order of St. Francis, and the new name of Junipero was then substituted for his baptismal name of Miguel Jose. After entering the convent, he went through a collegiate course of study, and before he had received the degree of Doctor, was appointed lecturer upon philosophy. He became a noted preacher, and was frequently invited to visit the larger towns of his native island in that capacity.

Junipero was thirty-six years old when he determined to become a missionary in the New World. In 1749 he crossed the ocean. He remained a short time in the City of Mexico, then to San Luis Potosi. He spent nine years there, and then returned to the City of Mexico where he stayed for seven years.

In 1767, when he was fifty-four, he was appointed to the charge of the Missions to be established in Upper California. He arrived at San Diego in 1769, and spent the remainder of his life here. He died at the Mission of Carmel in 1784, aged seventy-one.

Father Serra is referred to as the "Apostle of California." He founded "El Camino Real," the missions of San Diego, San Carlos, San Antonio, San Gabriel, San Luis Obispo, San Francisco, San Juan Capistrano, Santa Clara, and San Buenaventura.

As a living memorial to the spirit of this humble missionary, the Serra Club was born in 1934, in Seattle, Washington to continue the advancement of Catholicism through lasting friendships, and continuing education in the Catholic faith. In 1935 fostering vocations to the priesthood was included.

Serra grew extensively throughout the world during the 1950s. In 1951 Serra International was aggregated to the Pontifical Work for Priestly Vocations because it had been closely identified with the promotion of vocations to the priesthood and religious from its beginnings in the 1930s.

During the 1960s, worldwide expansion spread the word of Serra to Spain, Venezuela, Brazil, Hong Kong, the Philippines, and Australia. In the 1980s, Serra expanded to Italy, Mexico, Africa, New Zealand, Ghana, Nigeria, and Switzerland. With the political changes in Eastern Europe, Serra Clubs were chartered in Hungary, Croatia, and Slovenia.

Today, there are more than 600 Serra Clubs in 35 countries with a total membership of more than 20,000 men, women and permanent deacons.

## Serra Club Puts Faith In Action

The Owensboro Serra Club meets twice each month. Serra believes that when members gather for prayer, listen to an inspirational speaker, a meal and conversation, they grow in faith and are inspired and challenged by each other.

After hearing a speaker or discussing a topic, Serrans return to work, the family and the community with a renewed sense of how to live out the Christian message.

Serrans put faith into action with activities aside from the regular meetings, such as hosting priest and religious appreciation dinners such as Seminarians and Religious in formation appreciation dinners, fostering the priesthood in our high schools and middle

schools through essay and poster contests. Through our Adoptee Program, we keep in touch with the seminarians, and religious throughout the year. Serra also has an annual gathering for the sisters and other religious, and supports the Called by Name Dinner.

The Serra Club of Owensboro would like to invited you to join us in promoting the priesthood and religious ministry, if you would like to learn more about the Owensboro Serra club, you may call Kelly Hedges at 686-6119, Larry O'Bryan at 688-0783 or Fay Higdon at 683-4769.

*The Voice of Education.*

*The Future of Your Child.*

**The future starts now.  
Your children are ready for it.  
Are you?**

The Kentucky League for Education Alternatives' mission is to secure financial support, tax relief and other benefits for children in non-public schools.

Founded in 1991 by the Kentucky Bishops, KLEA began as a result of their strong commitment to Catholic school education.

For information and better representation on the issues facing your child's education, contact: **KLEA 502-875-8010 or Joe O'Bryan, Superintendent 502-683-1545**  
[joe@cpc.brescia.edu](mailto:joe@cpc.brescia.edu)

1042 Burlington Lane  
Frankfort, KY 40601-8487  
Fax: 502-875-2841  
E-mail: [klealt@aol.com](mailto:klealt@aol.com)  
[www.ccky.org](http://www.ccky.org)

## Sister Thekla Keller, SCN, 91 Dies

Sr. Thekla Keller, SCN, 91, a member of the Sisters of Charity for 72 years, died Nov. 6 at Nazareth Home, Louisville, KY. She was a music teacher at Nazareth, Paducah, and Covington, KY.

When she was the SCNs' Treasurer General from 1966-1980 she arranged for SCNs to be covered by Social Security. She was a prime mover of the religious congregations

of the Kentucky region examining congregational investments in the light of justice issues. This move ultimately swept the nation.

She is survived by two sisters, Virginia Cory of Pullman, WA, and Josephine Burch, Redding CA. Burial was in Nazareth Cemetery, Nazareth, KY.

# Honoring our Elders

By Ginny Knight-Simon

OWENSBORO, KY - On Sunday October 22, 2000 approximately 700 people gathered at St. Stephen's Cathedral in Owensboro for the 2nd annual Sophia Awards Senior Citizens Mass. This year 45 parishes from across the diocese participated with a recipient or recipients from the parish.

The Sophia Award (which is Greek for Wisdom) is a way individuals can be honored by their peers for their faithful service to the Church, their parish, community and family. Bishop McRaith presented each award winner with a trophy inscribed with their name, parish and date on it. Through applause and camera flashes each recipient walked up the aisle to receive his/her or their award!

Viola Bumpus was there to receive the award for her sister - Doris Bumpus of St. Agnes Parish, Uniontown - who passed away in June of 2000.

"We often hear it said that we have no, or that we are very short of, role models for heroes, Bishop McRaith said in his homily. "But we may be short of famous role models, the heroes that make the headlines in the papers, but we have many role models and heroes and they are as close as our friends and relatives"

"By serving others in small ways that do not make the headlines, true heroes make their worth known to their fellows," said Bishop McRaith.

Looking at the full Cathedral one could see the planting and the harvesting taking place as the span of generations reached as high as five. The seeds of the faith were being planted in young minds as they proudly watched the elders of the family walk up and receive a trophy. A trophy which represents a lifetime of



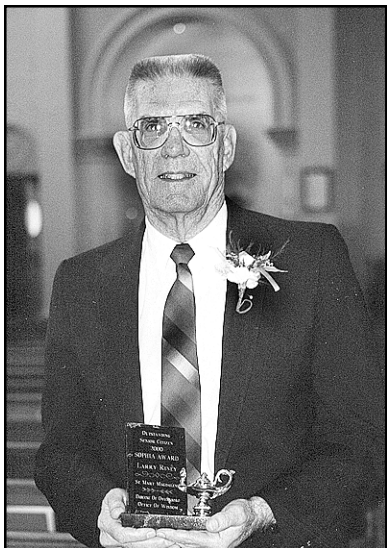
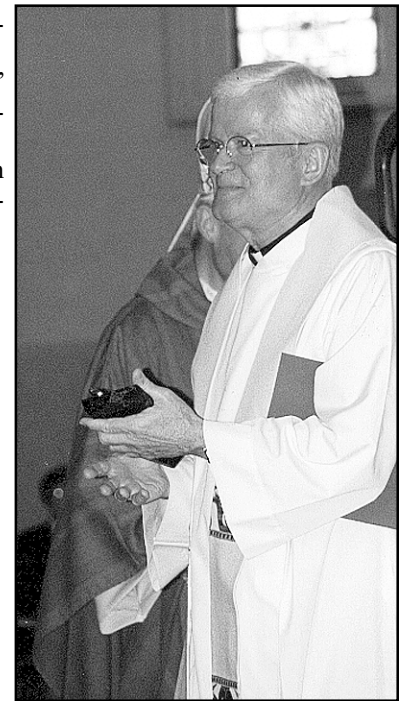
living out an example of faith.

"I am proud of my grandparents today," said Emily, the granddaughter of Sara and Walter Pudlo of Bowling Green, KY.

"I think this is one of the nicest celebrations I've ever been to," said Rosalee Coffey of Dawson Springs, at the reception following the Mass.

This simple gesture of recognition from the Church through Bishop McRaith will have untold lasting benefits for the generations to come.

**From top left, clockwise, some of the Sophia Award winners getting ready for group pictures in the Cathedral: F.G. Riney, St. Alphonsus; Sr. Mary Raymonde Carrat, A.D., Knottsville; Joe Lauzon, Immaculate, Owensboro; Larry Riney, St. Mary Magdalene, Sorgho; Lefty O'Bryan, St. Joseph, Central City. At top right, Dan and Shirley Hagman with Bishop John McRaith; at right, Sophia Award recipient and concelebrant, Fr. Joe Mills, Diocesan Vicar General, who also suggested the award's name; below right, Bishop John McRaith getting into position with several Sophia Award winners for group pictures; bottom center, Joe and Lahoma Stinnett, Blessed Mother Parish at the reception in the undercroft (Knight-Simon photo); above them, Mary Hinton, Sts. Joseph and Paul with Bishop McRaith at the reception (Ginny Knight photo); at left bottom, Larry Riney from St. Mary Magdalene parish in Sorgho; at left, the Silas and Catherine Simon family, St. Peter in Stanley (Ginny Knight Photo). All others on this page are Lois Rutigliano photos**



## Diocese

# Ground Breaking Ceremony at Blessed Sacrament Chapel Turns A Dream Into Reality

By Lois Rutigliano

OWENSBORO, KY - Blessed Sacrament Chapel, 602 Sycamore Street, was built in 1948 for the black Catholics of Owensboro. In 1966 the chapel closed and was rented to the Owensboro School System for the Owensboro Area Museum. The museum closed in the early 1970's.

In 1973 when the chapel reopened, Gloria Adams, the present Pastoral Administrator of the Chapel, appeared on the scene and saw many needs. Folding chairs were being used to sit in at the Mass celebration and it was not until June of this year that they were replaced with pews. A small galley kitchen with a table in the center was used to serve buffet style dinners for social gatherings, but once people filled their plates with the goodies, they returned to the worship area, where they could sit with one another and enjoy a meal and fellowship in the make shift dining area of the church. A large painting of St. Martin de Porres, the patron saint of interracial justice over looked the sanctuary's make shift dining area. Blessed Sacrament Chapel welcomes everyone, regardless of race or color.

"Due to the limited space, the mixed congregation, which is about 50% white, was basically attending Sunday mass and that was all," said Gloria, but she had a dream for the Chapel that went

far beyond the Sunday mass. "If the Church was going to do outreach ministry, especially for kids in the community, more space and funding for a new building was needed. Kids need all they can get that is positive," said Gloria, so she began to dream what seemed to be the impossible dream.

Undaunted by the challenge of the situation Gloria spoke with Bishop John McRaith and Rev. John Vaughan, pastor of St. Stephen Cathedral and Blessed Sacrament Chapel, about funding for the building. Since the response was positive, Gloria began looking for foundations and grants that would fund the project. The Chapel has already received \$70,000 dollars in grants, but the parking lot alone will cost over \$40,000. The remainder of the funds needed for the new addition will come from future grants, church fundraisers, and donations.

On Sunday, October 29, after the 10:00 AM Mass at Blessed Sacrament Chapel, a dream became a reality when Rev. Brian Roby, associate pastor of St. Stephen Cathedral, broke ground with a new shovel, which was provided for the special occasion and had a large red bow attached to the handle. As Fr. Brian scooped the dirt from the ground the crowd responded with enthusiastic applause. Fr. Brian shared the groundbreaking honors with Bishop McRaith and Gloria Adams. Afterward, anyone that wished could take a turn with the shovel.

Work will begin on the new building within two weeks, depending on weather conditions and it will be completed in approximately four months. The building will contain two offices, one classroom, a kitchen and two rest rooms.

After the ceremony a potluck lunch was enjoyed in the makeshift dining area of the church.

"When many people have gone without hope for so long they lose the ability to dream, so what we need to do is to

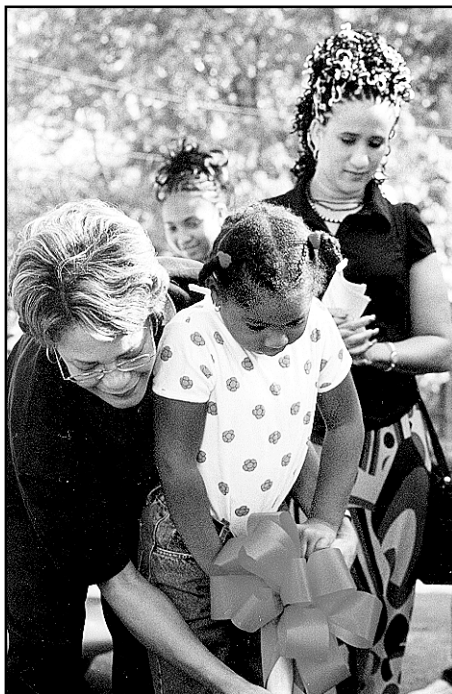
give our children the ability to dream. Dreams become reality," Gloria said.



Father Brian Roby, an Associate Pastor of St. Stephen Cathedral Parish, helped make diocesan history as he used a shovel top break ground for a new community center at Blessed Sacrament Church in Owensboro, Lois Rutigliano photo



Blessed Sacrament Pastoral Administrator Gloria Adams took her turn at breaking ground for the new community center at Blessed Sacrament. Gloria has been centrally involved with fundraising and planning for the new center. Lois Rutigliano photo



Candida Onley and Frances Johnson serve people during the potluck dinner after the groundbreaking ceremony at Blessed Sacrament Church. Lois Rutigliano photo.

In picture at left, Wonet Johnson helps her granddaughter shovel some dirt at the Blessed Sacrament groundbreaking as Tia Johnson and her mom Joan Butler watch. Lois Rutigliano photo

St. Martin dePorres is patron saint of Blessed Sacrament Church in Owensboro



# Patti Blair New Director of Office of Religious Education

By Lisa Gardner

The Owensboro Diocesan Office of Religious Education has a new director. At the end of June, Sr. Kathy Gallo resigned from the office she had held for 13 years and took a position with the Archdiocese of Boston. The new director of the Office of Religious Education is Patty Blair. Patty is a native of Owensboro and was educated in the Catholic Schools. She holds a Bachelor's degree from Brescia University and a Master's Degree in Theological Studies from St. Meinrad School of Theology.

Patty first became involved in Religious Education in 1976 when she enrolled her daughters in the Religious Education program at St. Stephen Cathedral. As she was registering her children, Fr. Louis Piskula asked the parents to pray because they needed someone to teach the fifth grade class. Patty knew almost immediately that God was calling her to this position. Within a few hours, she called Father and volun-

teered for the position.

For the next few years, Patty's life was rather mobile, moving from town to town. Each time she joined a new parish, she volunteered to teach in the Religious Education Program. She was never turned down. She taught classes at St. Jude Parish, Chattanooga, TN; Sacred Heart Parish, Russellville, KY; St. Joseph Parish, Central City, KY; St. Alphonsus Parish, Daviess County; Blessed Mother Parish, Owensboro; and again at St. Stephen Parish.

In 1993, Patty was hired as the Director of Religious Education at Blessed Mother Parish in Owensboro. She held that position for six years. One of her main projects at Blessed Mother was the certification of Catechists. She believes that in order to have a good Religious Education Program, the Catechists should be well trained, and respected for their ministry. This in turn, will benefit the children, the parish and the families.

In 1999, Patty felt that God was tugging at



**Patty Blair, new Director of Religious Education for the diocese, posed here with "the greatest asset to the Religious Education Office, Donna Biggs, Media Center Director and Office Administrative Assistant. Patty manages "Acvite Faith," a new e-magazine linked to the diocesan website. Staff Photo**

## Catholic Family Ministers Meet In Louisville

By Betty Medley

LOUISVILLE, KY - Over 200 people from across the U.S. participated in the annual National Association of Catholic Family Life Ministers 1999 Conference held September 22-26, 1999 here at the Galt House. Edwina Hyland & Betty Medley were representatives from the Family Life Office for the Diocese of Owensboro. The theme of the conference was "And They're Off: Exploring the Possibilities for Ministry in the New Millennium."

For the first time, conference participants had an experience of "Open Space Technology", a process where the participants themselves gathered in groups centered around their most passionate interests in serving families and assisting them on their faith journey. The process was proclaimed to be the most energizing experience the participants had ever used to enhance their learning. Some comments expressed were "I was amazed at the respect for differing opinions." "This provided a direct way for leaders to emerge out of their respective groups."

Rona Roberts, a Louisville, KY based Open Space facilitator, led the group through this unique process. This model will be replicated on a local level in the individual

diocese across the United States.

The NACFLM award was presented to Catholic Engaged Encounter, a nationwide volunteer organization that prepares couples for marriage through a weekend experience. The NACFLM recognition award was presented to Lynn Johnston from Collingwood, Ontario, Canada. Ms. Johnston is a family centered cartoonist best known for her comic strip "For Better or For Worse." Her strip appears in 2000 papers in Canada and the U.S. and 234 other countries.

During the conference there was a silent auction held for the bronze sculpture, "A Quiet Moment." This depiction of the Holy Family was donated to the National Association of Catholic Family Life Ministers by the Holy Family Ministry of Kitchner, Ontario, Canada and the artist, Timothy P. Schmalz. Valued at \$5,000, "A Quiet Moment" was used as a fundraiser for the Association.

Audio tapes of the conference keynotes are available through the Center for Family Ministries of the Diocese of Louisville, KY if anyone would be interested in purchasing these. They can be ordered by calling 502-636-0296.

her heart to make a change in ministry. That change came in a phone call asking if she would be interested in teaching full-time. She said yes and became the head of the Religion Department at Trinity High School in Whitesville, KY. This was a new and exciting ministry and at times frustrating because even though Patty was trained in Theology, she often felt inadequate in her classroom abilities. Just as she was "getting the hang of it," she was offered the position at the diocese. After prayer and discussion with her husband, Dean, she accepted the position. "I felt bad about leaving the students at Trinity. I had grown to love them and the community. However, I knew God was calling me elsewhere." She said that her experience at Trinity was invaluable because it gave her a sense of the ministry of teaching and the demands on those who dedicate their professional life to Catholic Education.

Patty has been very active in her new role, attending meetings, teaching classes and designing the Religious Education webmagazine (e-zine) ActiveFaith.

The magazine is a joint effort of the Religious Education Office, the Office of Lay Ministry and the Office of Youth Min-

istry. You can preview the e-zine by logging on to the Diocesan Web site, [www.owensborodio.org](http://www.owensborodio.org), and then clicking on Religious Education.

The greatest asset to the Religious Education Office is Donna Biggs, the Administrative Assistant to the Office of Religious Education and the Director of the Media Center. She has served the Religious Education Office for twenty-five years and can tackle almost any AV task. "Donna keeps me informed and makes me look good, she knows everything about the office. I couldn't do it without her."

In addition to the ministries listed above, Patty has served as Junior High Youth minister at two parishes, given youth retreats at Mount Saint Joseph, and served as a weekend Chaplain at Mercy Hospital.

Patty is married to Dean Blair and they have eight children; they spoil nine grandchildren with two more on the way. If you stop by her office, she will be glad to show you pictures. Patty feels very blessed to be able to serve the Diocese in her new position and encourages you to contact her if she can be of assistance in Religious Education.

## Diocese



## St. Romuald Parish Involves Religious Education Students in Lives of Hardinsburg People

Above right, students from St. Romuald Church, Hardinsburg, spent their Grandparents' Day visiting and playing bingo with the residents of the local Medco Center Nursing Home. These students are involved in the Religious Education Program at St. Romuald Church. Above left, these St. Romuald Religious Education students, Hardinsburg, gave their help to the Grandparents playing bingo at Medco Center on Grandparents' Day, September 13, 2000. Fr. Terry Devine, St. Romuald Church, Hardinsburg, blessed pets on the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi for the Religious Education program students. Pictured at right are Fr. Terry Devine, Kerri Hess, Hannah Reine, Kelli Roe, and Ann Brumfield. At far right, students involved in the Religious Education program at St. Romuald Church, Hardinsburg, participated in having their favorite pets blessed on the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi. Pictured are twins, Jessica and Joanna Anthony with their pet cats. All photos by Stephanie Barr

## No Need To Play The 'My-Religion-Is-Better-Than-Your-Religion' Game

Veteran Vatican watchers, expert analysts and logical thinkers of all stripes have been spurred in action by the declaration from the Vatican that's the news of late.

It's a conservative pope trying to preserve a conservative perspective of the church, say some.

It's meant to combat specific challenges in the Far East, say others who are supposedly in the know

It's a step backward for Christian unity and interfaith cooperation, circle still others.

But what about you?

How do you feel about the statement that it is Jesus Christ that the fullness of salvation is achieved?

Are Catholics supposed to believe that only Catholics are in heaven?

Heavens, we wouldn't think so. And that's not what the Vatican declaration says.

We would hope that non-Catholics like the late humanitarian Dag Hammarskjold, peaceful justice seeker Mohandas Gandhi, martyred civil rights worker Medgar Evers and many, many more earned an eternal reward with God in the next life.

Millions of people through the ages - loving, moral, prayerful, giving, ethical, self-sacrificing, justice-minded people who were Buddhists, Jews, Methodists,

Presbyterians, Lutheran, Shinto, Baptists and Muslims,

you name it - surely have pleased God with their lives and have been judged worthy to join their creator for for eternity.

But we really don't know for certain.

Heaven remains a mystery, and one I'm afraid none of us will know about fully until our time is done on earth.

While we are here, though, perhaps the question each Catholic must ask is not whether one religion is as good or better than another.

Instead ask:

Do I feel so gifted in my Catholic faith that I want everyone to know this joy?

Instead ask:

Do the Gospel stories and the teachings of

Catholic Church call me to a life I know

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### VIEWPOINT

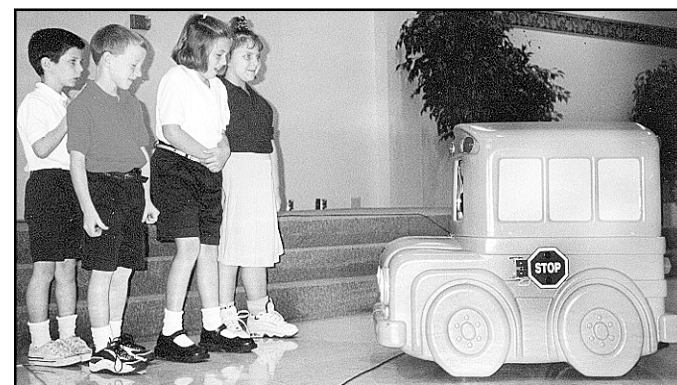
Bob Zyskowski



Above, Jennifer Wurth's Fifth grade class tagging Monarch butterflies.



## St. Ann School Hosts Special Person Day



MORGANFIELD, KY - St. Ann School hosted a Special Person Day in October for students and grandparents. Top left, Kristina Obert's grandparents Winfred and Marian Obert from Fort Branch, IN visited. Above right, Krista Willett enjoys lunch with her grandmother Helen Willett. Lower left, Dylan Floyd teaching his mother Sara Wedding and grandmother Sue Mary Wedding to play Word Bingo. Center, the St. Ann School Corn Festival float. Bottom right, Buster (school bus) teaching St. Ann Students about bus safety: from left, Matthew Loxley, Zachary Buckman, Phylisha Pike, and Shelby Wyatt. St. Ann photos

## No Need To Play The 'My-Religion-Is-Better-Than-Your-Religion' Game

*continued from page 23*

through my own conscience as the right journey to pursue, the right goal for which to strive?

Ours is not a perfect church, of course. Too many frail human beings have been and are part of the Catholic Church for it to be errorless.

But the morality behind Catholic teaching, the richness of Catholic ritual and traditions as they have been preserved and have evolved, the challenge to follow more closely the loving ways Jesus lived and taught, the fulfilling nature of the sacraments, the satisfaction of the common purpose and the vitality of

community life - these are things we cherish.

These are the things we have been commanded to take to the world.

And, really, a faith you don't cherish and want to share with others - well it isn't much of a faith then, is it?

*This Viewpoint is reprinted here with permission of Bob Zyskowski, the associate publisher of Catholic Spirit, newspaper of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis.*

## Local Religious Leaders Attend LCWR Assembly

(Maple Mount, KY—November 9, 2000)—

Three leaders of Owensboro-area religious communities recently participated in the annual assembly of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious in Albuquerque, N.M. Sister Rose Marita O'Bryan, Major Superior of the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph, and Sister Suzanne Sims, Assistant Superior of that community, together with Sister Christine Beckett, President of the Glenmary Sisters, attended the assembly August 17-21. Its theme was "Risk the Sacred Journey."

LCWR President Sister Nancy Sylvester told the assembly that "fidelity to the call of Vatican II to be in the world, acting on behalf of justice, and participating in the transformation of our world" defines the journey of women religious for the past 40 years and

their present mission.

A member of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Sisters of Monroe, Mich., Sister Sylvester described women religious as giving "expression to a form of religious life situated in, critical of, and expressive of the culture and values of the United States." Essential to that expression, she said, is "how it unfolds in us precisely as women who understand ourselves to be moral agents." This is a "gift to the official Church and the entire people of God," she said.

That expression, Sister Sylvester said, has created tension and led to "an impasse with the official Church." She told the body that "we need to bring this reality to contemplation, drawing on "myths, stories, symbols [that] exercise the imagination and our more

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## Diocese

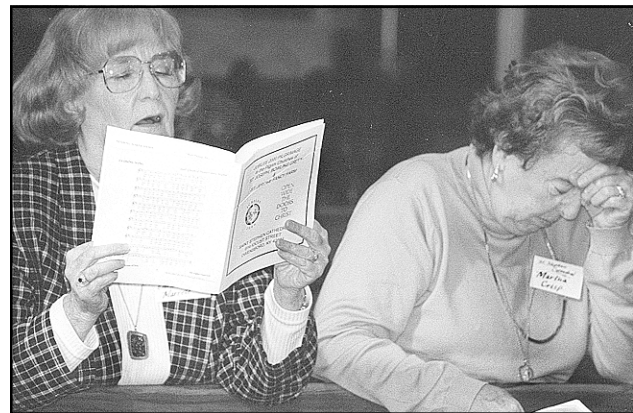
# A Fancy Farm Jubilee Year Pilgrimage

By Lois Rutigliano

OWENSBORO, KY - On Thursday, October 12, 2000, Pilgrims boarded a bus here, in the parking lot at St. Stephen Cathedral, destined for a Jubilee 2000 pilgrimage to Saint Joseph Parish in Bowling Green and St. Jerome Parish in Fancy Farm. These two churches along with St. Stephen Parish were designated to be Pilgrim churches.

The first stop on the journey was St. Joseph Parish, where Fr. John Vaughan, pastor

Holy water and were mounted on white column pedestals on each side of the door inside the main entrance of the church. The altar was surrounded by marquee like lights, which enhanced the appearance of the rich gold tone altar. The dome of the church looked like the heavenly dwelling place for angels, with its blue sky and gathering of clouds around the fringe of the dome. One angel held a Church in the



extended toward a dove bathed in a brilliant light. The light emitted bright rays, which radiated to a cross surmounted on the steeple and was engulfed by the light. The dove is a symbol of the Holy Spirit. Other angles appeared to dance between the clouds with joy at the coming of the Holy Spirit.

The Blessed Virgin Mary, mother of Jesus, appeared in a nearby Stained glass window. She was dressed in a white garment trimmed in red. A nimbus surrounded her head with twelve symbols of stars that depicted saint hood.

Mr. Julian Durbin, a long time member of the Parish gave a brief history about the church and told humorous stories about former pastors. Afterward, the pilgrims headed for St. Jerome Church in Fancy Farm, Kentucky. En route to Fancy Farm, the group stopped and enjoyed a delicious lunch at Patty's Black Kettle.

of St. Stephen Cathedral and the Spiritual Director for the pilgrimage, celebrated a mass in the beautiful old church. The architectural design of the church was interesting, because many new additions had been added and built around the main structure.

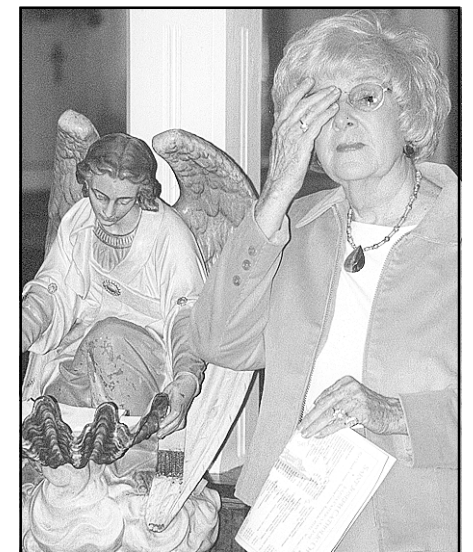
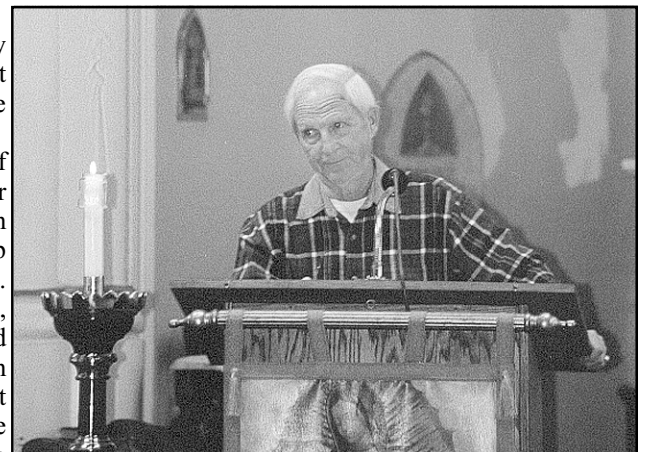
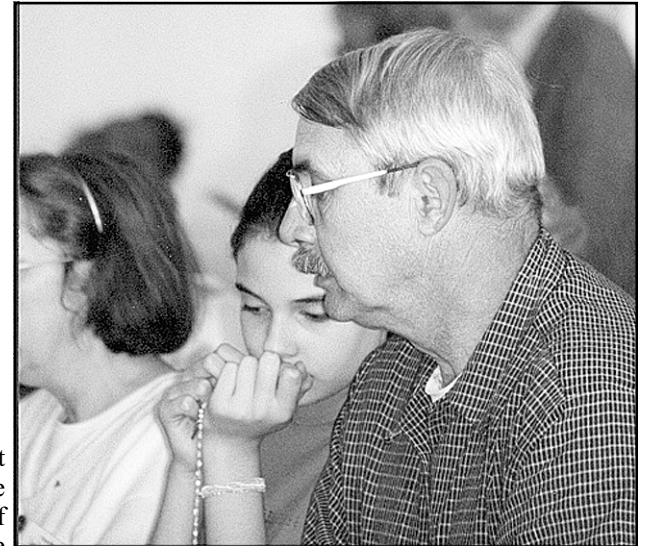
Two angels dressed in colorful tunics of green and white held large shells filled with

On the way home the pilgrims were asked what their prayer intentions were, or what in particular was in their heart to pray for? Some of the group was kind enough to share their prayers, with family high on the list of intentions. Helen Miles prayed for her sister Betty Reis who has terminal cancer and that she not suffer too much, or too long. Martha Crisp prayed for good health of all the family, safety on all trips, the well being of children and a happy death. Emma Lou Macrett prayed for world peace, to end child abuse, for the poor and homeless, and for a renewal of faith in the Jubilee year. Others prayed for the salvation of their remaining children and respect for all human life and for families to experience a renewed commitment

*Continued on page 26*



**P i c t u r e captions: clockwise from top: Sr. Ann McGrew prays with ladies from the parish; Ron Greenwell and his wife Nancy in prayer with their daughter Jessica, eighth grade at Owensboro Catholic Middle School; St. Jerome parishioner Julian Durbin guiding the pilgrims; at right, Betty Aull making the Sign of the Cross from a holy water font held by an angel; Group photo: Attendees of the Jubilee Pilgrimage for October 12, 2000: Fr. John Vaughan, Sr. Ann McGrew, Mike Conley, Mary Margaret Drury, Wanda Jones, Betty**



**Aull, Ruth Payne, Lorenza Fulkerson, Margaret O'Bryan, Hugh Mills, Ron Greenwell, Jessica Greenwell, Mary Ann O'Bryan, Eddie O'Bryan, Helen Miles, Margie Hill, Virginia Carrico, the St. Stephen Parish pilgrims; and Emma Lou Marrett singing with Martha Crisp beside her in reflection. Lois Rutigliano photos**

## Catholics Swell Numbers of Supporters of Right To Life Banquet Fundraiser

OWENSBORO, KY - Several hundred people attended the annual Owensboro Right To Life fundraiser banquet in the Executive Inn Rivermont, including many Catholic priests and parishioners. Also attending were quite a few candidates for election as well as many people of other faith traditions. The assembly accepted the invocation given by Fr. Al Powers as their prayer and purpose:

### **Invocation For October 27 Right To Life Banquet By Rev. Aloysius Powers**

Almighty and Generous God, You have given us Your greatest gift, Your Son Jesus Christ. In Him we adore the eternal origin of all life. Begotten of the Father before all time, He was born of the Virgin Mary in Time. In His humanity He sanctified motherhood from the instant of conception through all stages for our salvation. Lord Jesus by your becoming man, You shared with us your divine life making us potentially heirs of heaven, sons and daughters of the Father, and you became our brother. Recall all peoples to these divine blessings, to appreciate the unborn as persons and to enlighten every human being coming into this world. In your

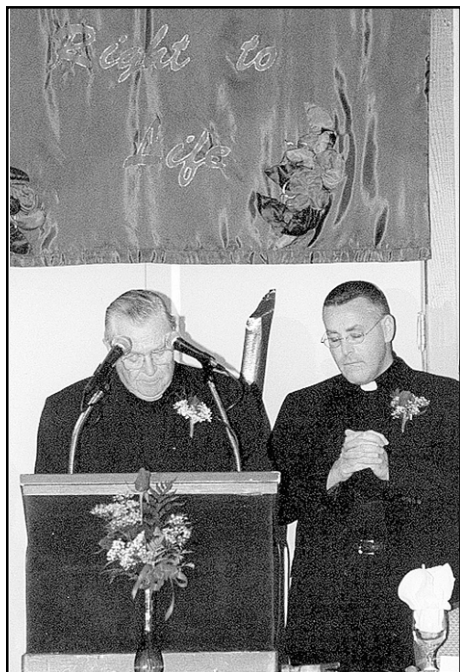
mercy avert your just anger from the enemies of life to allow God's infants to give Him glory and be crowned with the heavenly life of grace. Oh good God, give to our law makers the wisdom to know God's will — to choose the culture of life over the culture of death. Please, God, give them the courage to



**Former abortion doctor Anthony Levatino, an OB/GYN, with his wife, Cecelia, a nurse, urged Right To Life supporters to stay active in the struggle to end abortion. Levatino said he had performed 1,200 abortions. But he stopped when he and his wife encountered Christ.**

choose right over wrong, for it is within their power to make the difference. Grant to us leaders with moral values over economic values. Finally, Lord God, as we gather at this banquet, let us be mindful of those who are not so blessed and favored. Bless this food which comes from your bountiful hands. We ask these blessings in the Name of Christ Jesus our Lord and Brother. Amen.

**At left, Fr. Aloysius Powers delivered the invocation to the banquet with Fr. Gerald Baker, program Master of Ceremonies, at his side at the podium. Staff Photos**



## St. Stephen Pilgrimage To Fancy Farm

*continued from page 25*

of love and togetherness in this Jubilee year. The most mentioned prayer intention was for good health and the return of children to the church.

Fr. John Vaughan and Sister Ann McGrew, OSU from St. Steven Cathedral were Spiritual director and trip organizer. Mike Conley minister of music provided the music and lead the pilgrims in song for the recitation of the rosary.

## Living the Sacraments:

### **“The Catholic Woman’s Role: In Memory of ‘James Harley’”**

**By Pat S. Smith**

It is “All souls’ Day” again and this year I am remembering James Harley. My memories of him are mostly what I heard from my earliest childhood memories. He was 12 years old, thin, brown-eyed, brown haired. He was reading a book, *The Red Pony*, and had meticulously placed a bookmark where he left off the night before. He was wearing jeans and a plaid outing shirt that day, December 18, 1948, and had three quarters, some pennies and a shoe string in his wallet. He was on his way with his younger brother, Ken, to chop down a Christmas tree for the family. It was a cold, gray morning when they left his mother at home, pregnant with her seventh child. But he would never see home again. He was a brilliant, handsome young boy, one I never saw except in photos. He was my oldest brother, James Harley, and he died that day, hit by a car as Ken watched. And I was the unborn sister he never saw. I heard so many stories during the years and I would often stare for hours at his large, memorial picture which hung over the fireplace in my parents’ bedroom. All my childhood Christmases were so sad as my parents relived his death each year. His little gravestone was inscribed simply, “he was the sunshine of our home.” And from all the many stories they related, I know that, although there were other children, being my parents firstborn, he was truly special and especially loved. I always have felt a little cheated that I knew James Harley only through photographs and memories that my parents, grandmother and siblings told on long winter nights in front of the fire. I know his tragic death that cold winter day forever changed the lives of my whole family, including myself, who could not understand fully the grief they felt.

I turned 51 this year. James Harley would have 63 years old on May 6. I wonder what he would have become? Ken went into the medical field, an army career, AND a politician, holding the office of Mayor of his hometown for 17 years. Our other remaining brother became an educator, our oldest sister, a postal worker, another sister, a factory worker, another a housewife and I? I simply became a mother at age 19 and later had my own career in the medical field. Perhaps James Harley would have become a doctor, one who would do research and find a cure for cancer or AIDs. Perhaps he would have become a man of God and preached and helped lead others to Jesus. I sort of see him that way, since his deep brown eyes in his photo, which always seem to be looking back at me, were so sweet and sensitive and he truly would have been a wonderful father, too. But a speeding car cheated him of his earthly life, those many, many years ago. Now I believe he is a wonderful angel and I bet he wonders about me, too. Ironically, he had a pet monkey named Pat and I was often kidded that I was named after his monkey. He had a little girlfriend named Joy, and I wonder too, how at age 12 she dealt with his death and if she still remembers him, and holding hands on walks home from school back in those oh, so pure and homey days of the 1940’s? I wonder if he has somehow protected me in times of danger, reaching down somehow to stop a car from hitting me, or held my steering wheel steady when I was driving carelessly in traffic. I wonder what he would have thought of my two daughters and my son, now 13, just about his age when he died. I wonder what he would think of his “baby sister” Pat. Mother often told me he was excited about the new baby coming in the spring. I know my mom never really had another happy day after James Harley’s death. He truly was her “sunshine” and on the day of her own death, I could picture their reunion in heaven and that her grief was no more.

I, too, often grieved for this brother I never knew. Of course, I always think of him when Christmas rolls around and sometimes a little fear clutches my heart and I worry about my own young son. But more than grief and curiosity, today on All Souls’ Day, I am praying for him and perhaps grieving for the life he never had. As a Catholic woman in the new millennium, I struggle sometimes to understand tragedies like the death of my oldest brother, but I know that God, in his infinite wisdom, never makes the wrong choice. Perhaps He needed James Harley more than us. As I close, I share this poem my brother Ray, the school teacher, wrote in 1959:

*Eleven Christmases have come and gone  
But his memory lingers on.  
He went to get a tree that day,  
But never returned to us.  
Now he spends his Christmases with Christ.  
And we miss him very much!  
He adorns the heavens with his smile,  
And silently watches over us!*

Today, I am choosing to think of you, my brother, James Harley as an “Angel Watching Over Me.” My hope is to meet you one day in Heaven!

## Diocese

# Bishops: Take Better Care of the Earth

"The Earth is not being well cared for," the bishops of Indiana said in a September statement titled *Care of the Earth*. And in an October letter titled *And God Saw That It Was Good*, the bishops of the Boston ecclesiastical province said, "It is increasingly clear that the promotion of human dignity cannot be separated from our care and protection of God's creation." The pastoral was signed by the 21 bishops of Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine.

"In a consumer society, personal habits of overconsumption and waste have adverse environmental and social impacts," the Boston pastoral letter said. "The choice to be a good steward of creation will be one of the characteristics of Christians who know that theirs is not the final generation," it commented. "Jesus," it explained, "opened up to us a new living based not upon consumption, but upon prudent use of the goods of this world, with concern for the poor."

"As we do an environmental examination of conscience, certain behaviors and attitudes do emerge as needing dramatic change and conversion," the Boston-area bishops said. Their letter said that responsibility for protecting the environment "requires mature moral evaluation and action."

Still, the pastoral noted, "there are real dilemmas; issues and tensions emerge as we reflect upon the environmental challenges before us. Legitimate land and natural-resource development, for example, and the livelihood must be part of any moral assessment of how we protect our natural resources."

However, the bishops continued, while "economic development is the key to our current prosperity, certain economic practices and attitude of blind faith in economic growth contribute to environmental destruction and urban sprawl. Economic criteria alone cannot be the basis for a proper evaluation of the effects our behavior has on the environment."

The bishops added, "The waste and pollution we create and the equitably distributing the Earth's resources are fundamental environmental and social justice."

The bishops asked everyone to "thank God for the world he has and they urged:

-That families teach "children to love and respect the earth...and to consider the long-range consequences of their attitudes and actions."

-That priests and parishes incorporate in prayers and homilies "confessions about

the misuse of nature and its resources" and "organize occasional celebrations of creation on appropriate feast days."

-That parish leaders become better informed about environmental issues and introduce them into religious education and other parish programs."

-That Catholic media "disseminate the church's teachings on the environment" and "report parish environmental activities."

-At Catholic college faculties "educate students about ecological concerns in the context of their faith" so that "Christian devotion to care of the earth [becomes a] hallmark of Catholic education."

-That the business community "make further progress in...responsible use of the resources of the earth."

-That public-policy officials support "economic development projects that better protect the environment and consume fewer natural resources."

-The Indiana Catholic Conference distributed the statement to state officials and to Catholic parishes and institutions. The statement lists principles "solidly grounded in Catholic traditions":

1. "Reverence for an order in creation that doesn't come from us but from a Creator... In

Catholic moral theology and philosophy this has been the starting point of natural-law ethics for centuries.

2. Respect for biodiversity as "one of the gifts of the Creator that we must cherish....If we cause the extinction of a species, we are diminishing of the Creator."

3. Understanding of the "universal purpose of the goods of the Earth," that the Creator intended the resources of the Earth for the nourishment and flourishing of all people, and indeed of all life on Earth."

4. Recognition that "the poor and marginalized demand special attention," that the "ecological crisis is clearly a moral crisis" and that "justice and love must be joined to scientific know-how in resolving any and all problems."

5. The need to develop "a holistic ethic of care for the Earth...that joins together the demands of ecological stewardship, social justice and world peace."

*Article from "Catholic Trends" a publication of the Catholic News Service. Vol. 31: No.6, Oct. 14, 2000. Write to: Catholic Trends, U.S. Catholic Conference, 3211 Fourth Street N.E., Washington, D.C. 20017-1100*

## Diocesan Officials Host A Day For Forgiving Past Offenses

By Lois Rutigliano

OWENSBORO, KY - At a prayer service held at St. Stephen Cathedral on Saturday, October 29, 2000 at 2:00 PM, following the lead of Pope John Paul II, as part of the Jubilee Year Celebration, Fr. Joe Mills, Vicar General of the Catholic Area Diocese, apologized to those hurt by the church. Fr. Mills said, "We need to acknowledge our sins and ask forgiveness. You have people who hurt one another, and we need to say we are sorry. Some Catholics have questioned the apology, but I personally think it's a wonderful thing."

Music for the special prayer service was provided by Mr. Mike Bogdan, the Diocesan Director of Music, and Rev. Brian Roby, associate pastor at St. Stephen Cathedral. Fr. Brian sang, accompanied by Mr. Bogdan on the piano.



**In photo above, Fr. Tom Buckman helped hold a large cross as people venerated the Cross, symbolically recognizing their own crosses in life and connecting themselves with Jesus' suffering at His crucifixion on a Roman cross. Lois Rutigliano photo**



**In the photo at right, Bishop John McRalth, right, and Vicar General Fr. Joseph Mills, together proclaimed prayers from a prayer service brochure imploring God's forgiveness for past offenses against those hurt in any way by the Church. Lois Rutigliano photo**

# WISDOM

By Ginny Knight Simon

6

**Etta Staples -  
St. Mary of the Woods  
Parish  
Resident Bon Harbor  
Nursing Center**



I've been living here (Bon Harbor Nursing Center) for about two years. My husband was here and I came to see him every day so I thought why not move in too. He passed away in 1999. My husband, Thedford, and I were married 65 years when he died. I remember we met at play party - that was where everyone played music and danced to what they played. Thedford and I had five children; Ruth, Wanda, Darral, Shirley, and Mary. Thedford wasn't Catholic but joined the Church after he came here, to the nursing home. My mother was killed when I was four years in a horse and buggy accident and her family raised all of us children in the Catholic faith, which my mother was all of her life.

I used to walk to church with two of my children to the old St. Thomas Church in Hancock county. The church isn't there now, just a cemetery. I finally taught myself how to drive and I drove for years without a license, but I never drove in town!

My daughters visit me very often, one calls me at night and we say our prayers. I'm very thankful to God that I still have my mind, even though my eyes are getting bad and I have a hard time getting around.

I really miss being able to go to mass on Sunday. We have a mass on Wednesday here, but it's not being able to go on Sunday and be with your parish people.

## Trinity Government Class Stages Presidential Forum



**Faculty and students gathered under a shelter at Trinity High School October 6 to hear a Presidential forum. Lisa Thompson and Troy Winchell, left, represented the Bush/Cheney ticket in the 2000 election as Jeremy Hamilton and Jason O'Bryan represented the Gore/Lieberman platform. THS Photos**

WHITESVILLE, KY - On October 6, Lisa Arme's senior Government class at Trinity High School demonstrated a mock Presidential forum for any classes that wanted to attend. The day brought an end to a week of research and campaigning.

The students thoroughly researched their candidates before posting ads around school as well as running a commercial for their candidate. The students should now have better insight about the issues and where each Presidential candidate stands. The Gov. George Bush representative, Lisa Thompson, was elected President at the mock election.



## "St. John the Evangelist Family News"

By Richard Durbin

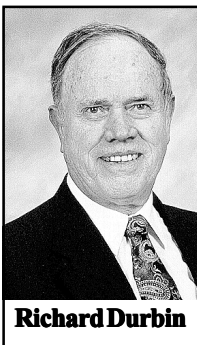
As I write this news story on the 12th of November, it is hard to realize how quickly time passes. Thanksgiving is just around the corner, when we should thank our God for all the blessings we received in the year 2000. No matter how we analyze the good and bad things that have befallen us, the good outweighs the bad. We are still alive and able to sing praise to our Creator who is responsible for our being here. So, I hope you had a good Thanksgiving and look forward to a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, 2001.

We recognize our parishioners for their anniversaries and loyalty to their marriage vows. Three couples in St. John, who married on the same day, celebrated their 40th anniversary, with a Mass at 8AM on October

15: Louis and Judy (Fletcher) Roof, and Bob and Patricia (Wurth) Roof, and Bob and Barbaranelle (Haas) Tacket. All 3 couples renewed their Marriage Vows at St. John.

Also Bennie and Doris (Dunaway) Durbin will be celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary on November 23, Thanksgiving Day. Their day will start with Mass here at St. John.

We offer condolences to the families upon the deaths of Joe Willett, James Snow, Helen Marie Krimple, Robbie Patterson, and Mildred Kindred. All were former members of St. John Parish.



**Richard Durbin**

Father Tom Buckman, recently Ordained Priest stationed at the Cathedral in Owensboro, lost his Father, Buddy Buckman, who was buried in November at St. Agnes Church in Uniontown, Ky.

We congratulate Arthur J. Maher and Shelia M. Wilson who were married at a Nuptial Mass at St. John in October.

A World Wide Marriage Encounter, set for November 17 - 19, was sponsored by the Diocese of Owensboro. Making Good Marriages Better is their motto.

It may still be possible to go to the Shrine of "Our Lady Of The Snows" in Bellville, IL sponsored by the KofC of St. John on Dec the 9. For more information or reservations you may call Curtis Langston at 554-1029. Also sponsored by the KofC was a very successful Blood Drive on November 5. Every one who gave blood (35) and who helped out with the drive deserves a load of thanks.

The "Telephone Of Stars" in Paducah got under way Nov. 11. The Telethon is an Annual fund raiser, sponsored by the Lions Club, to benefit the crippled children of the area and gets bigger each year in amount of money raised. Our church has a special collection each year for the cause and we are always very generous. Last year we raised \$1,247.00

Father Ben is seeking new members for the Eucharistic Ministry at St. John. He said we need at least 6 new Ministers, especially for the 4PM Mass on Saturday. If interested please contact Father soon. We need more singers for the Christmas Choir. If you would like to sing in our adult choir, please show up for practice after the 10:00 AM Mass on Sundays. The first Sunday of the month donation of food for the Sisters of the Sacred Heart is a big success. They are very thank

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## Diocese

## Diocesan Tribunal Office adds Louanne Gelarden as Ecclesiastical Notary

By Lisa Gardner

Louanne Gelarden is currently serving as an Ecclesiastical Notary for the Tribunal Office. As Louanne explained, an "Ecclesiastical Notary" draws up acts and instruments relating to decrees and depositions, records actions or testimony which has taken place, gathers information and assists the Tribunal Staff as well as Petitioners and Respondents with the annulment process.

In February, 2000, Louanne joined the Diocesan Staff shortly before the retirement of Kay Rhodes. A graduate of Owensboro Junior College of Business, Louanne worked at Saint Meinrad College for fourteen years as secretary to the college faculty, spiritual formation department and student counseling center. She is still employed at Saint Meinrad part-time in the Benedictine Oblate Office. When the College closed, a few years ago, Louanne began the search for new employment. She was working as a grant administrator when she learned of the opening in the Tribunal from a long-time priest friend in Owensboro.

"I feel very blessed to be here, and everything I have done and experienced in my personal as well as my professional life, has prepared me for this ministry in the Tribunal." Louanne was instrumental in founding a divorce support group in her own parish. While currently going through the annulment process herself in her home Diocese, Louanne is uniquely gifted and qualified to help those with questions regarding the process. "It can be a difficult and painful process, one with which I can understand and empathize."

Louanne lives in Tell City, Indiana with her two children, Emily 17 and Eric, 15. She and her family are members of St. Paul's Parish in Tell City.

## St. John The Evangelist Family News

*continued from page 28*

ful and urge our continued support. The Sisters teach the Hispanics in the Western Ky area. The Hispanics are predominantly Catholic and need the help afforded by the Sisters. The Monsignor Anthony G. Higdon Council # 10962 of St. John had some very successful Fish Fries during October. Thanks to the many volunteers who worked so hard to prepare and serve these dinners. Thanks,

*Continued on page 30*



Louanne Gelarden

## Journey of Faith

### DYING FOR LOVE

By Rev. John Buckel, St. Meinrad School of Theology, St. Meinrad, Indiana 47577  
jjbuckel@juno.com

Death is the ultimate question. Even Jesus asked, "why?" when it was his turn to die (Mark 15:34). The divine response to this "ultimate question" invites Christians to view their death in the light of Christ's death. The crucifixion of Jesus lies at the heart of Christian teaching.

We are so accustomed to viewing the cross as a sacred object and referring to the day that he died as "Good Friday" that we often forget the tremendous amount of suffering and humiliation that accompanied this most terrifying form of capital punishment.

The crucifixion of a condemned person was a slow and painful process. Once an individual was firmly bound to a cross (with nails or rope), a cramping of the muscles took

place. Lack of movement also resulted in a severe decrease of the flow of blood in the lungs. Air could therefore enter the lungs but could only be expelled with a tremendous amount of effort. One had to push one's self upon one's feet, which obviously resulted in terrific pain as the feet were usually nailed to the cross, in order to expel the air. With the passing of time, one had less and less strength to lift oneself up and thus experienced even greater difficulty in breathing. One who was crucified eventually suffocated.

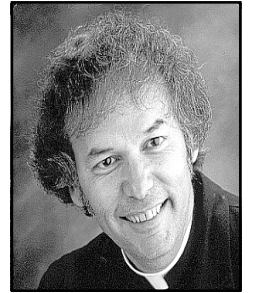
Jesus must have also experienced a great deal of emotional trauma. Even before he was arrested, Jesus had a good idea of the suffering that was in store for him (Matt 26:38: "My soul is very sorrowful, even to death."). Moreover, he foretold that his closest companions would desert him, Judas would betray him and Peter would deny that the two had ever met (Mark 14:17-31).

Jesus may also have felt abandoned by God ("My God, my God, why have you forsaken me"). Nevertheless, according to St. Luke, Jesus' last words on the cross were those of trust ("Father, into your hands I commend my spirit" (Luke 23:46).

The focus of the New Testament is not on the intense suffering and anguish that Jesus experienced but rather on the great love that God has shown for humanity by sending his only begotten son into the world to die for us (John 3:16). What value we must have in the eyes of God that his beloved son underwent such tragedy!

The resurrection of Jesus demonstrates that suffering and death do not have the final word. God's all-encompassing love changes everything. The crucifixion of Jesus is now understood in terms of redemption instead of tragedy. Because of the resurrection, we no longer look upon the cross as an instrument of torture but rather as a sign of divine love.

The gift of liberation from sin and death should always be treasured as a precious gift. Because of the death and resurrection of Jesus, the followers of Jesus view their own death differently than non-Christians. Death is not thought of as a "dead-end" but rather as the gateway to eternal life and unending joy. Death may be the ultimate question but Christ is the ultimate answer.



## WISDOM

By Ginny Knight-Simon

6

Mary Wurth -  
Blessed Mother Parish Owensboro  
Resident Bon Harbor Nursing Center

"I'm from Morganfield, KY and attended St. Ann's parish for many years. My husband Leonard was the care taker at St. Ann's for about 26 years. We had 13 children and I stayed pretty busy just doing the daily routine!

After my husband died I moved to Owensboro and lived in an apartment. I felt like a fish out of water after so many years of being married. But God never closes one door without opening another. I joined a women's group. We traveled, quilted and did other activities. I fell a couple of times and that landed me in the nursing home. I was in the Bishop Soenneker home at Knottsville before I came here. I really liked it at Knottsville because we could have daily mass and if someone needed a priest Fr. Marty was right there. But it is more convenient for my family to have me in Owensboro and I like being closer to them. One of my sons in law is here too, he has Parkinson's, so I get to see my daughter every day.

I really enjoy watching the TV Mass that comes on Sunday. I miss getting to go to mass every day and receive communion every day. We have two ladies from Precious Blood parish that bring communion twice a week, but it's just not the same as having daily mass and communion.

I very thankful for my children and their visits.

**(The Diocese of Owensboro and Gideon Productions sponsor televised Mass on Channel WBAZ19 at 11 a.m. on Sunday from Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Owensboro)**



## Carrico's Ramblings

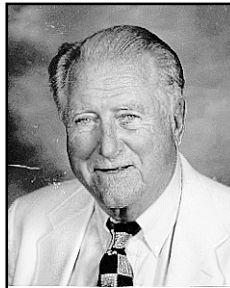
### Maybe Growing Old Isn't All that Bad After All...Or Is It?

By G.E. (Jerry) Carrico

When I was a youngster some umpteen years of age I clearly remember my mother saying, "It is bad to get old." Being a teenager at the time, I didn't think a lot about it, true, untrue, or just conversation, but upon becoming a grown-up, I'm now giving it some serious thought. Honestly, though, I haven't found growing old all that frightening or disagreeable...and from observation I think I have a lot of company in my opinion. Of course, in my case, I'm not running a foot race or doing any strenuous exercising...and hardly any hard work at all after being retired for the last 34 years...and yet I'm still active in other ways, walking daily supported by a cane but I still "get up every morning" as so many oldsters boast or express their well being. Most of my work is mental, writing articles, working crossword puzzles, catching up on the world news, watching certain TV programs when I can find any worth watching, reading current newspapers and reading interesting books. All of these things keep my poor mind active. Yes, I'm thanking God for being able to do all of these things.

As further proof of the value of being active, here are some examples as published in one of our popular magazines: 1) George Burns won his first Oscar at the age of 80. 2) Golda Meir was 71 when she became Prime Minister of Israel. 3) Michaelangelo was 71 when he painted the Sistine Chapel. 4) Casey Stengel didn't retire from managing the New York Mets until he was 75.

The above are only a few examples of oldsters working late in life...and succeeding. Now here is an outstanding example of late-life success. A bachelor at the age of 80, who had been successful in life, decided to



G.E. (Jerry) Carrico

build a beautiful rock Catholic Church on a beautiful mountain at a resort town, Maggie Valley, North Carolina, out of his own money with no public support whatsoever. Upon its completion his Bishop suggested he become a priest. He entered the St. Meinrad Seminary, studied and was later ordained a priest. Afterwards he was assigned as pastor to the same church he built. He worked actively for almost another 20 years, getting converts and new members reaching a member status of 75 families, and dying close to the age of 100, he is now considered an uncanonized saint. He is fully respected by all residents of the tourist town of Maggie Valley by Catholics, Baptists and other denominations. Well, for sure he didn't let "old" get him down. Father Murphy was more than a good friend to me.

It's true, of course, that many retirees start moaning and groaning soon after reaching a retirement age...and it is likewise true that many of them "sit down and do nothing" after their working years are over but it is also true that they soon die off because of inactivity.

Now more about my mother. In her earlier years she obviously didn't think fondly about her advancing old age, but as she advanced in age she accepted it gracefully, living to the ripe old age of 92. She spent lots of her time praying rosaries for her family, and friends, and whoever asked for some prayerful help in coping with their family or personal needs, either spiritual or material. In her case, after getting into the swing of retirement it apparently wasn't all that bad after all.

## St. John The Evangelist Family News

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too, to the people who came to eat. Those who attended the first one came back each week and brought some one new to eat that very tasty fish, hush puppies, french fries or baked potato, slaw and beans. We initiated 7 new members at the last meeting. Our annual collection for the poor in Jamaica amounted to \$1,057.00. Sister Marcia, RSM, made her annual talk at all the Masses prior to the collection.

Congratulations to Brianna Marie Russell, daughter of Ronald W. and Sharma Marie (Wurth) Russell, who was baptized recently at St. John.

Heidi Surheinrich of the Paducah Cooperative Ministry thanks the St. John Parish and the many other churches for the splendid support given the non-denominational ministry this year. Some of the emergency

Continued on page 31

## To Talk Of Many Things

*"The time has come, the walrus said, to talk of many things; of shoes and ships and sealing wax of cabbages and kings."*

### "The Measure of Life"

By H. J. Ramage, Jr.

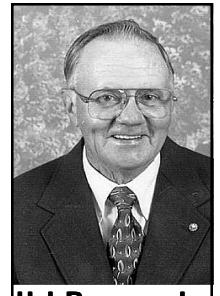
Recently I read a comment in the newspaper in which the writer referred to a difference between a fetus and a person. How ludicrous a statement! The words, fetus, or embryo, merely designate stages of development, in this instance of a human being. The reason some people make this type of statement is, if they ever admit that the fetus is a person, then they will have to admit that by abortion, the killing of a child is taking place.

Even pro-life people use improper terminology when referring to life matters. I'm guilty of it. For instance the term, "pro choice," is a misnomer. The child has no choice, neither does the child's father. We use the term mother-to-be, or father-to-be. In reality a woman who is pregnant is already a mother; she is just caring for her child in a different way. Her parents, brothers, and sisters are already grandparents, uncles and aunts. The unborn baby has cousins, friends, and neighbors. They just haven't met! The child has everything except rights! Until 1973 he or she also had rights. Some states have begun to re-enact some rights for the unborn.

One of the illusions that anti-life groups use is that the embryo or fetus really isn't a person because it isn't alive. If it's not alive, then how does it grow? Show me anything that grows that's not alive! A rock doesn't grow! You can plant it, water, and fertilize it, but it won't grow. But even a rock is always a rock. You may smash it, crush it, grind it to dust. It takes on a different form, but it's still rock.

A grain of seed corn, as such, is not fit for food. But plant it in the ground at springtime, give it proper temperature, moisture, nourishment and it will sprout and produce a stalk of corn. Still, it's not fit for human consumption, but give it time and it will produce an ear of corn that is very tasty. Even though this grain of corn underwent several different stages, it was always corn. It was never a rock, or a soybean; it never abandoned its original nature. It makes as much sense to say that a grain of corn was once a rock, as to say that an embryo, or fetus,.... is not a person. That type of logic just doesn't cut it! Never has; never will!

God only gives us one physical life, so live it, enjoy it, cherish it.... defend it!



H.J. Ramage, Jr.

## WISDOM

By Ginny Knight-Simon

6

**Theresa Haynes -Sts. Joseph & Paul Parish  
Owensboro  
Resident of Bon Harbor Nursing Center**

I retired from the G.E. plant on Ninth Street in Owensboro, many years ago! I also worked in a nursing home for a while.

I never married so my sister is my immediate family. I had two sisters and one sister died sometime ago and my other sister, Margaret Smith, still comes to visit me. I also had a brother that died when he was an infant.

My eyes aren't too good, but I still like to do word games in books and watch tv. I watch the TV Mass on Sunday at 11 o'clock. I miss getting to go to mass more often than just once a week. I would really like to go on Sunday.

I like to do a few things that are offered here like current events and some of the games. I like it here okay, but I miss Sunday mass."

**(The Diocese of Owensboro and Gideon Productions sponsor televised Mass on Channel WBAZ19 at 11 a.m. on Sunday from Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Owensboro)**



## Diocese

# Sunday's for Families

Betty Medley (Family Life Office)

## FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

*Luke 21:25-28*

*December 3, 2000*

Theme: PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD

**Family Life:** On Thanksgiving the full force of advertising can be felt. In homes across the country voices of children of all ages can be heard saying, "I want that for Christmas." More than any other time of the year, the weeks preceding Christmas challenge our commitment to celebrate the true meaning of Christmas versus the Madison Avenue version. As family members, we can commit ourselves to being the lights of the season. We can spend these weeks of Advent taking time to be with one another, seeking opportunities to show our love in our actions and in our words.

## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

*December 10, 2000*

*Luke 3:1-6*

Theme: WE ARE SUSTAINED BY HOPE

**Family Life:** During the Holidays we often hope to rekindle the ideal of family life in the rituals, traditions and nostalgia that the season evokes. The reality of home life, however, reminds us of how far short of the ideal "real" family life falls.

A comedian suggested that they should install a revolving door in his parents' home. Within moments of returning home for the holidays he is reminded of why he left. He starts to go through the door, saying "hi, Mom and Dad." His parents start in with "you're no good...you'll never amount to anything...you're nothing but a bum" and he just keeps going back out the door, waving, "Bye, see you next year." Similarly, many grown children have experienced building their hopes for family relationships only to have those hopes disappointed. Clearly, hope is not enough. Things will be different only if we are different. Instead of allowing ourselves to be sabotaged by old patterns of interaction, we can change expectations, change our response to others, change the script.

## THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

*December 17, 2000*

*Luke 3:2-18*

Theme: WE CAN BECOME HOLY WHEREVER WE ARE

**Family Life:** One of the most fascinating American religious movements was the Shakers. In the 18th century they established communities based on a family model. When it came time to choose someone for leadership, they did not necessarily look to the most educated or erudite. Rather, they looked at members who had learned from their work. They did not choose the best woodworker or teacher or farmer, but rather the one who had learned gentleness or care of diligence from what they did. Their example reminds us that holiness is not something to be found by separating ourselves from life, but by transforming our life, doing our work as it should be done.

## FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

*December 31, 2000*

*Luke 2:41-52*

Theme: GOD'S WISDOM IS GIVEN TO THOSE WHO FOLLOW HIM

**Family Life:** *After a frustrating day at work or home, we can become "short" with the first person we meet. Then, as so often follows, the "pecking order syndrome" begins: I yell at you, you yell at your brother, he yells at the dog and the dog chases the cat. How can we break this "pecking order syndrome"? By asking forgiveness! Our children learn much more from what we do than from what we say.*

In what ways do you seek the forgiveness of your children? How can you teach others in your family to forgive each other?

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

*December 24, 2000*

*Luke 1:39-45*

Theme: THE PARADOX OF BLESSEDNESS

**Family Life:** Not long ago a young woman underwent induced labor so her child would be born before the mother began treatment for newly discovered cancer. What had promised to be their moment of great happiness became for her and her family a time of anxiety and joy, hope and fear, all mixed together. She knew firsthand that remaining true to God's will is a kind of paradox; if we would be true to God in our joy, we must seek fidelity to God in our suffering. She has made her prayer the words, "I will win" not naive wishful thinking but a deep determination that, with faith and her family, she will not be denied the possibilities of the present moment, these relationships, this life.

## Tour of Italy

sponsored by St. Mary of the Woods Church, Whitesville, KY

October 22 to November 2, 2001

Visits to Florence, Perugia, Assisi, Pisa, Siena, and 3 days in Rome

**\$2,676 per person**

(based on double occupancy)

**Package includes round-trip airfare from Louisville, hotels, gratuities, departure taxes, most meals, personal escort, all sightseeing tours and more!**

**Spiritual Director: Fr. Richard Powers,**

**pastor of St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville, KY**

*For more information or a brochure call Sharrie Cinnamon  
at 1-270-233-5438.*

## OCMS Students Recognized by Duke University

Owensboro Catholic Middle School is pleased to announce the following students for Duke University's Talent Search Program in the area of Verbal or Mathematical ability on the CAT5 achievement test. This program identifies gifted seventh graders in taking the SAT or ACT college entrance examinations. These students are as follows:

Jordan Allison, Ryan Barker, Lauren Barna, Katie Bittel, Lacey Bittel, Nick Blandford, Eric Brown, Blake Buck, Aaron Burns, Meredith Campbell, Courtney Castlen, Sarah Castlen, Jody Cecil, Amanda Clark, Laura Clark, Zachary Clark, Kyle Clayton, Jessica Cox, Jennifer Dooper, Alyson Dorth, Alexa Ebelhar, Erin Ebelhar, Jeremy Ebelhar, Dylan Flaim, Kristan Ford, Jessica Franey, Luke Fulkerson, Kristen Gerteisen, Miranda Gilstrap, Caitlin Glaser, Emily Goedde, John Gruenwald, Christa Hagan, Kevin Hamilton, Sarah Hardesty, Danielle Hayden, Ryan Hayden, Allison Haynes, Abbie Higdon, Chris Hodgkins, Andrew Howard, Rachel Howard, Wayne Howard, Jay Ivey, David Jarboe, Holly Jones, Houston Kamuf, Stephen Kamuf, Brian Klump, Clare Lovekamp, Justin Marks, Devin Mattingly, Adam McBride, John McBride, Adam McCarthy, Jerrod McCarty, Kirk McCarty, Veronica McCormick, Patrick McDivitt, Chase McNulty, Sarah Millay, Kevin Morris, Allyson Orth, Brittany Owens, Richard Payne, Scott Pope, Jennifer Renshaw, Kathryn Riggs, Kristin Sharp, Rebecca Spurlock, Jacqueline Stogsdill, Keith Storm, Jordan Taliaferro, Melissa Thomas, Stephanie Thompson, Matthew Valentine, Bridget Walsh, Brent Ward, Daniel Ward, Cory Warren, John Wathen, Emily Weafer, Kaley Wethington, Daniel Whitehouse, John Wilson, Jessica Wimsatt, Michael Windle, Kyle Woodall, Evan Wright, Katie Wright, Heather Young.

*Source: OCMS press release.*

## St. John The Evangelist Family News

*continued from page 30*

help by the Ministry through October, was groceries to 3,362 families, funds for 1,001 households, for rent, utilities, prescription medications, 232 individuals admitted to the Homeless shelter, 60 of whom were children and funded 511 meals on wheels to con-

lescing elderly individuals and many other acts of charity.

We are not held back by the love we didn't receive in the past, but by the love we're not giving in the present.

## A Walk in Different Shoes

*Continued from page 1*

with him, he admitted he had an alcohol problem and it was his choice to live this way. He had everything he owned in the grocery cart, including his bible. He read some of the scripture passages to them. He told them he wanted to go to a friends, but he didn't have any transportation. The teens offered him money but he refused; he only wanted a ride. They pooled their money and called a cab for him. The cab company must have thought it was a hoax and wouldn't come until an adult called and explained the situation. The experience really brought home what homeless people experience.

A homeless lady came by and angrily

accused them of making fun of homeless people, another ate with them. The teens were amazed that there was so much activity downtown in the middle of the night. People in cars read their signs and some stopped to give them money, others jeered at them.

The teens attended the 8:30 Mass at St. Francis, they entered as a group in the entrance procession. They were ragged, disheveled, dirty, tired and hard to ignore as they were sitting before the altar huddled in their blankets. Father Greg Arflack explained what the teens were doing and why. He mentioned that the reading for the day from Matthew was especially appropriate, "Can

you drink of the cup I am to drink of?" Christ came to serve, not to be served. We are all called to serve one another even those who are dirty, homeless and even difficult. Most of the parishioners were very supportive. They gave teens money and words of praise and encouragement. Others ignored them and still others made it very clear that they were not happy that the teens were there. The group also attended Mass at Rosary. Over \$1200 was collected from Sat. evening until Sunday mid morning; they donated the money to local groups working to help the homeless.

Father Greg shared the experience with the young people, "It was good for them to have that experience, it really broadened their

understanding. I am proud of them that they had the courage and willingness to step out about real world issues; it shows that the youth of this community are interested in the problems of our area. And we need to listen to our youth when they do speak out." Tracy Bryant was also one of the adults who participated. She related what one boy said, "This was just awful; I didn't sleep at all last night. I'm cold, tired, don't like what we have to eat and I know I stink. I hope I don't ever have to live this way." "I thought it was a wonderful experience for them," Tracy went on to say, "It gave them an opportunity to see beyond themselves and to feel compassion; I am very proud of them."

## St. Ann Interparochial School News

### TIP Awards

Eight SAIS students have qualified for the Duke University Talent identification Program (TIP). This means that about 35% of the present seventh grade class qualified. Through TIP, Duke offers them the opportunity take the ACT test as 7th graders. In February they can take the same level test that high school juniors and seniors take for college admission. Congratulations to Rachel Buckman, Jade Ervin, Ryan Fowler, Lea Heriges, Kirstie Higgs, Jay Hite, Willie Jones, and Abby Nelson.

### Cherokees Win Tournament

The Lady Cherokees and the Cherokees both won First Place in the SAIS Autumn Tournament Oct. 26-28th winning 3 games each in the round robin tournament. The Ladies beat Providence 48-8, Christian Heritage 49-37 on Thursday. Saturday night the Lady Cherokees took on Dawson Springs winning 41-37. The Lady Cherokees shot 65% of their free throws to win over Dawson Springs.

The SAIS boys posted 3 wins in the tournament opening with a victory over St. Peter & Paul of Hopkinsville, 45-33. On Saturday SAIS posted a win over Mary Carrico, 39-24. The boys then won over Pennyryle Christian, 59-35.

### Y Club Off and Running at SAIS

SAIS has a new club this year. The Y Club officers are President Ashley Clark, Vice President Ryan Fowler, Secretary, Erin Caldwell, Treasurer, Krista Floyd, Chaplain, Ashley Wurth, Publicity Chair, Adam French and Service Project Chairpersons, Katie Willet and Brittany French. Class Representatives are Mary Henshaw, Jessica Williamson and Sarah Greenwell.

The officers received training at the Regional Round-Up meeting held recently at KY Dam Village. The Sept community project was a clean up of the St. Ann prayer garden. At the Oct. meeting Mrs. Janet Gill, SAIS principa, presented a program on Paliamentary Procedure. The school activity for Oct. was helping the teachers get ready for parent conference and the community activity was doing the haunted house at the PTO sponsored Halloween party on Oct. 21. The group will attend KYA in December. The Y Club Sponsors are: Mrs. Margie, McGraw, Mrs. Daphne James, and Mrs. Jennifer Wurth.

### SAIS Yearbook Honored

The SAIS 1999-2000 yearbook was honored recently by Inter-State Publishing with an Honorable Mention Achievement Award. Over 3,500 yearbooks were eligible for these awards. Entries were submitted and a panel of judges including experts in the fields of marketing, design, printing and sales, judged the final entries and selected tgh winners. Ten first place honors and 10 honorable mention were awarded. The sponsor at SAIS is Jennifer Wruth, 5th grade teacher and member of Sacred Heart Parish.

## Worried about what your grandkids see on TV?

Announcing a new family-safe TV channel  
—Familyland<sup>SM</sup> TV Network!

- Family Classics
- Children & Youth Shows
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- Family Sit-Coms

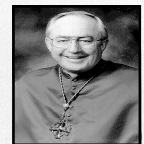
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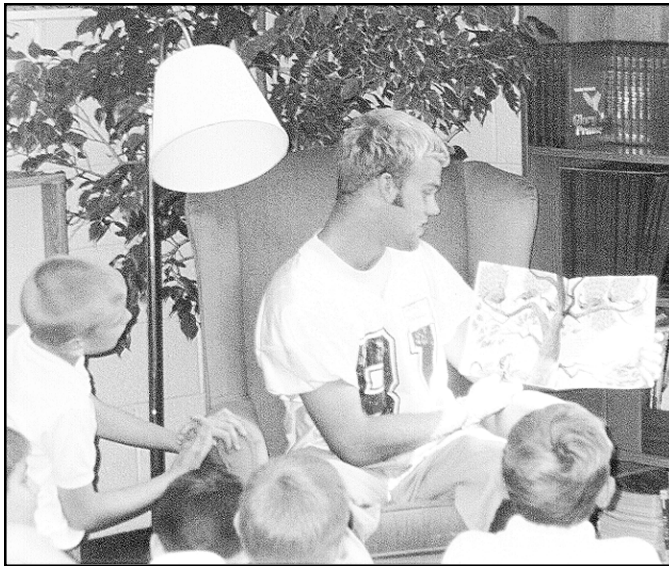
View our video sampler and get more info at

[www.familyland.org](http://www.familyland.org)

or call toll-free 1-888-83-BLESS.

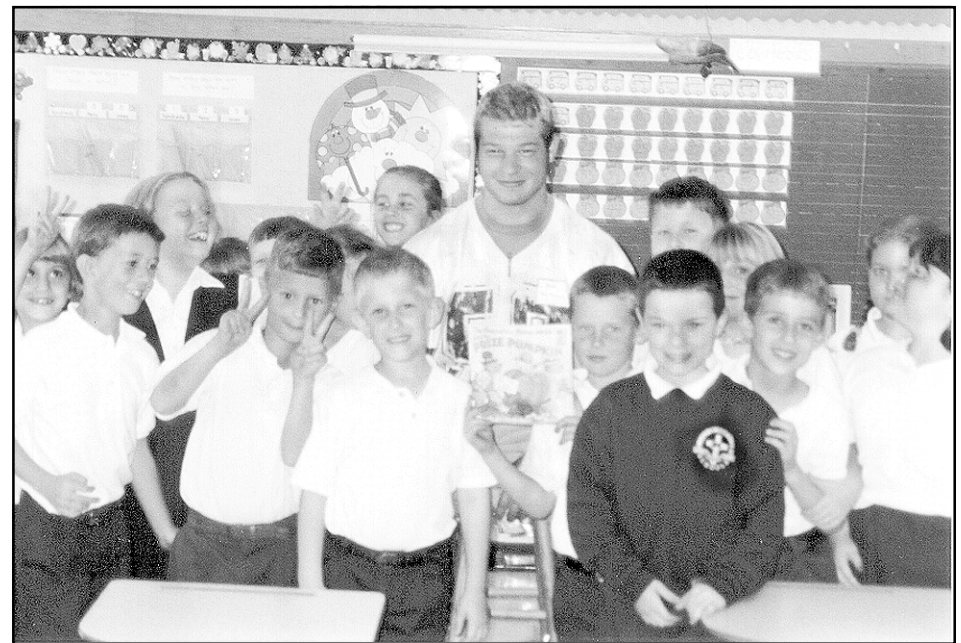
Diocese

# OCHS Football Players Read Plays In Field and In Classroom

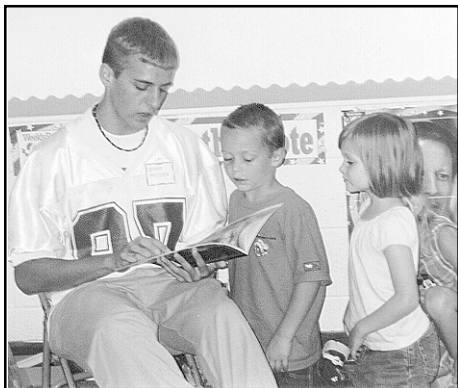


"Bigtime" Josh Payne reading to children. OCHS Photo

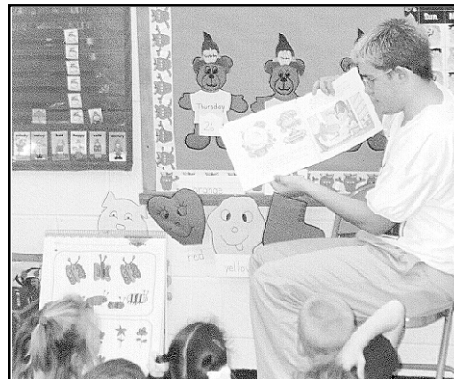
Recently 13 OCHS Football and Soccer players spent some time at Cotton School reading to every class in observance of their Accelerated Reading Program. The players were Matt Tucker, Jared Powers, Adam Meister, Ben McCarty, Josh Payne, Aaron Carrico, Stephen Hardesty, Stephen Chapman, Josh Likens, Jordan Coomes, Joel Mattingly, Nathan Johnson, and John Janiak. OCHS Photos



Above, "Bear" Ben McCarty was all smiles after reading to this enthusiastic group. OCHS Photo



"Mighty" Adam Meister reading to children. OCHS Photo



At left, "Sumac" Stephen Hardesty holding a books as he read aloud. OCHS Photo

## Local Religious Leaders Attend LCWR Assembly

*continued rfrom page 24*

contemplative selves." She asked LCWR members to reflect personally and communally on right relationship and the best way to achieve it.

Medical Mission Sister Miriam Therese Winter, who gave three presentations, said that chaos is an element of our time. "We have marched beyond our maps," she said. To move viably into the 21st century, she said, requires transformation. "We have some really big 'habits' that have to be changed," she said, and "change does not come from the outside, but from within."

In order to move faithfully into the 21st century, Sister Winter said, "we need to ask ourselves again, 'Who is this Jesus we are following?'" She reminded her audience that "Jesus was not Catholic; Jesus was not Christian," and asked them to keep "looking

for, questing for" Jesus through the lens of women. On this quest, she said, we should look in the gospels for the "questions not the answers, noting that "there are more questions than answers in the gospel."

In open microphone sessions and in table conversation, participants considered reports and projected implementation of a special resolution adopted in 1999 to work with officials at all levels of the Church to address issues of the exercise of ecclesiastical authority in the Church. The body affirmed ongoing conversations and dialogue with the United States bishops, and Vatican offices and officials, convoking a gathering to determine how to engage in dialogue, education, theological reflection, and study of the impact of the exercise of ecclesiastical authority on religious life.

*continued on page 34*

## RCIA Workshop The Period of the Catechumenate

### *When & Where:*

**Tuesday, January 9, 2001**

(6:30—8:30p.m.)

St. Thomas More Parish Hall  
5645 Blandville Road  
Paducah, Kentucky

**Thursday, January 11, 2001**

(6:30—8:30p.m.)

Sts. Joseph & Paul Parish Hall  
609 East Fourth Street  
Owensboro, Kentucky

**Saturday, January 13, 2001**

(10:00 a.m.—12:00 noon)

Sts. Peter & Paul Parish  
902 East 9th Street  
Hopkinsville, KY

Please join us as we take an in-depth look at the period of the catechumenate and examine such issues as:

- How to lead a catechumenate session
- How to balance a catechumenate session with prayer, reflection, teaching and sharing faith stories
- How to put together a prayer service
- How to formulate good faith-sharing questions
- . . . And so much more

There is no fee for this workshop.

To register or for more information, contact **Martha Hagan** in the Office of Worship at the Catholic Pastoral Center at **270-683-1545** (e-mail: martha@cpc.brescia.edu)

*Sponsored by the Diocesan Office of Worship and presented by Sisters Geraldine Hoye and Georgia Acker.*

## Collection for Older Religious Lets Catholics 'Share In The Care'

"Share in the Care" is the theme to herald the 13th National Religious Retirement Collection, the annual appeal for retired sisters, brothers and order priests slated for December 9-10. The annual collection helps offset retirement costs challenging men and women religious.

For most of their history in the United States, religious worked in schools, hospitals, and orphanages for modest stipends or maintenance.

Until 1972 religious could not belong to Social Security. Average annual cost of care for religious who are past age 70 is \$22,254. The average annual Social Security benefit for religious is \$3,333; for other Americans this benefit is \$9,650. Forty-four percent of men religious and 15 percent of women religious receive no Social Security benefits.

More than \$318 million have been contributed to the Retirement Fund for Religious since this special collection began in 1988. The cost of skilled care last year for 5,837 religious men women was more than \$200 million.

The National Religious Retirement Office distributes, on average, more than 98 percent of the money it receives annually in grants to religious institutes. Of the 70,383 women religious in the NRRO database, 51 percent are older than 70; 26 percent are older than 80. Of the 15,737 men religious in the NRRO database, 33 percent are older than 70; 11 percent are older than 80.

The average reported median age of women religious institutes is

68; average reported median age for men religious institutes is 62. The 2000 Arthur Andersen Report calculated \$6.4 billion in unfunded retirement liability for U.S. religious institutes.

Since 1987, 42 percent of our religious institutes have sold property, including some motherhouses, to fund their retirement needs. (Based on 1997 data)

Many religious institutes collaborate to share space, resources and personnel for the care of members needing assisted and skilled care.

### Psalm 71

## Prayer for the Aged

(paraphrased)

You are my trust from my youth,  
You have upheld me from birth;  
You took me out of my mother's womb.  
My praise shall be of you.

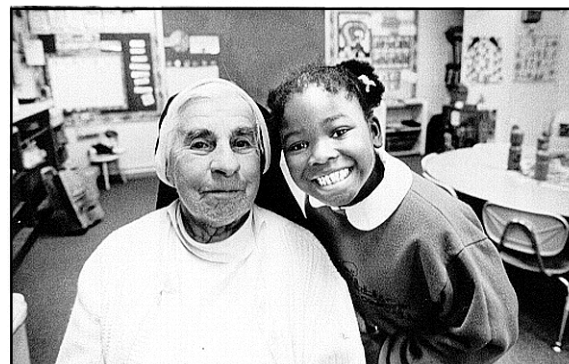
Do not cast me off in the time of old age;  
Do not forsake me when my strength fails.  
Do not be far from me;  
O my God, help me!

O God, you have taught me from my youth;  
I declare Your wondrous works.  
Now when I am old and gray headed,  
O God, do not forsake me until I declare  
You to this generation.

Oh God, who is like you?  
You, who have shown me severe troubles,  
Shall revive me again.  
You shall comfort me on every side.

I will praise You -  
And Your faithfulness!  
To You I will sing, O Holy One of Israel.  
My lips rejoice when I sing to you.  
And my soul, which you have redeemed.  
Amen.

**Support Our Aging Religious, Inc.,  
1400 Spring Street, Suite 320,  
Silver Spring, MD 20910**



At the Dominican Kindergarten on the motherhouse grounds of the Dominican Sisters of Mission San Jose, California, retired Sister Irmengard Flori and student, Hawa Foster, enjoy a new "Circle of Love" program for sisters and students.

En el jardín infantil en los terrenos de la casa madre de las Hermanas Dominicas de Mision San Jose, California, la Hna. Jubilada Irmengard Flori y la estudiante, Hawa Foster, disfrutaron del nuevo programa "Circulo de Amor" para religiosas y estudiantes.



Left, Sister Katherine Ward, BVM, a victim of Alzheimer's, accepts a blossom from nursing assistant Wendy Jaeger.

Sr. Katherine became a sister at age 16 and taught music for more than 50 years.

La Hna. Katherine Ward, BVM, víctima de Alzheimer, acepta una flor de la ayudante de enfermera Wendy Jaeger. La Hna. Katherine entro al convento a los 16 años y enseno musica durante mas de 50.



"I want to be remembered as a Franciscan priest who worked zealously, prayed devoutly, loved deeply, suffered silently, and lived joyfully," says Father Conrad Miller, OFM Conv., 86, who continues ministry among residents of Stella Maris assisted living facility near Towson, Maryland, where he lives.

"Quiero ser recordado como un sacerdote franciscano que trabajo con afan, rezo con devocion, amo mucho, sufrio en silencio y vivio con alegria", dice el P Conrad Miller, OFM Conv., 86, quien continua su ministerio entre los residentes que necesitan ayuda en el centro Stella Maris, cerca de Towson, Maryland, donde el vive.

Sister Kathryn Balsler, SSND, 79, works each day at St. Mary of the Pines retirement center in Chatawa, Mississippi, repairing and restoring religious sculpture for parishes and individuals.

La Hna. Kathryn Balsler, SSND, 79, trabaja diariamente en el centro para jubiladas de St. Mary of the Pines en Chatawa, Mississippi, reparando y restaurando esculturas religiosas para parroquias e individuos.

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## Local Religious Attend LCWR Meeting

continued from page 33

The body of the assembly also adopted three resolutions, vowing to work for 1) legislation that will help people move out of poverty as the welfare reform act comes up for reauthorization in 2002; 2) better conditions for laborers in maquiladora factories along the United States-Mexico border, and 3) support of a "global peace force" to assist in resolution of local and regional conflicts.

On the final morning of the assembly, the sisters participated in a prayer service at the Civic Plaza, calling for needed public services in Pajarito Mesa, an area just outside of Albuquerque. Residents of the Mesa live without roads, water, electricity, school bus service for children, and legalization of lands. The proximity of a public dump also raises health concerns. The prayer gathering included presentations by women who live in the Mesa, as well as those working for change there. The sisters

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## Diocese

## Path of a Pilgrimage

By Frances Vessells

FANCY FARM, KY - It was just a short notice in our Sunday church bulletin. Father Bruce Fogle was leading a busload of pilgrims to Washington, D.C. on a pilgrimage to the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception, our National Catholic Shrine. My sister, Rose Willett, our friend, Emma Meadows, and I just jumped at the chance! And then we discovered several friends from the other parishes were also moved by the Holy Spirit to do something extra this Holy Year to celebrate the Great Jubilee 2000. Never mind all the entertainment stops along the way!

We knew it would be a prayer-filled journey and we kept our eyes on our "final destination" - the magnificent Basilica of the Immaculate Conception and it more than lived up to expectations! The only complaints I heard were that we just didn't have near enough time to enjoy its beauty and grandeur. Most of us would have just loved to sit in a pew for hours and just soak up the Peace and Serenity in the Presence of Jesus, our Saviour, in the Blessed Sacrament! But back to the beginning.....

And so Sunday, Oct. 8th, found us traveling up the West KY Parkway to the Caneyville Exit where we took Highway 79 to St. Anthony's Church at Axtel, Ky., which is Fr. Bruce's parish. This is beautiful country especially in the Fall. We went by Rough River dam and lake. There is also a beautiful state park there. This area is in the foothills just south of Louisville.

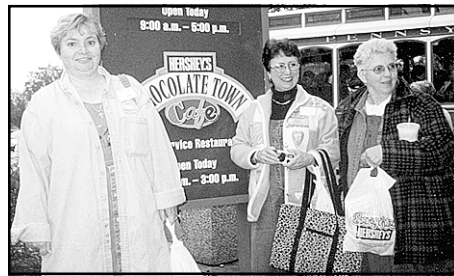
Our fellow travelers from Fancy Farm were. Gerald Kilcoyne, his wife Dorothy, Betty Jean Redden, Joyce Toon and Karen Willett, all came up on Sunday and stayed at the same motel where we were. The ladies from Charles near Bardwell, Wanda Hayden, Brenda Stigall, and Annette Hunt left about 1:00 A.M. and traveled most of the night. Sunday night saw a real killing frost. Rose had to scrape the windshield on the car. The temperature was about 28 degrees, the first really cold spell of the new season.

### Monday, Oct. 9th

Fr. Bruce celebrated Mass for us at 5:30 A.M. but we were away at our motel at 3:45. I don't think any of us got very much sleep that night! Fr. Bruce reminded us it was the feast day of our own patron saint, St. Denis. What a great start for our trip! Sister Mary Cabrini had coffee waiting for us. May God bless her for her thoughtfulness! It was there we met our other fellow travellers from West Ky.: Steve Jenkins, his wife, Linda, from Mayfield, and Linda's mother, Mrs. O'Nan from Henderson. We left St. Anthony's about 6:15. Father passed out prayer sheets



**Father Bruce Fogle and Sister Mary Cabrini from St. Anthony's at Axtel. Frances Vessells photo**



**From St. Charles near Bardwell, from left, Brenda Stigall, Wanda Hayden, and Annette Hunt. Frances Vessells photo**

and we had morning prayers on the road to Louisville where we picked up our permanent driver and escort, Arnold Woodruff and his wife, Harriet.

We expected just an uneventful day of traveling as we had to travel a lot of miles that day. But it was far from eventful! First, we had chance to meet our fellow travelers. They were from the parishes around Axtel-but, don't ask me for names!!! There were some nuns from St. Joseph- one of whom was Sister Mary Cabrini, who is an assistant for Fr. Bruce at St. Anthony's. We enjoyed meeting all. What with pray and bingo the time just flew by. The farther north and east we went, the more beautiful fall colors we saw. And then, up in the mountains in Pennsylvania, we ran into a driving snow storm for a few miles! It was beautiful but a little scary until we reached the lower elevations. Fr. Bruce kept us all entertained today with bingo and passing around treats. I think everyone brought something to nibble on as



**At the Basilica, a group picture of all of us. Frances Vessells photo**



**From St. Jerome at Fancy Farm, from left, Gerald and Dot Kilcoyne, Karen Willett, Joyce Toon and Betty Jean Redden. Frances Vessells photo**



**Emma Meadows from Mayfield and Rose Willett with Frances Vessells from St. Denis. Submitted photo**

**In photo at right, from St. Joseph in Mayfield, from left, Steve and Linda Jenkins and her mother Mrs. O'Nan from Henderson. Frances Vessells photo**



we traveled across the country. Breezewood, Pa. was our stop for the night and we were all ready for our beds after a long day of travel.

### Tuesday, Oct. 10th

We knew this was going to be a long day with miles to go and things to see. After Fr. Bruce offered Mass at our motel and breakfast we were on our way with morning prayers the first order of business. By that time, we were close to our first stop of the day, the town of Hershey, Pa., the Chocolate Capital of the World. We had lunch there and took advantage of the shopping area to stock up on nibbles for the rest of the trip, Halloween treats and Christmas presents for the folks at home. Yes, you can smell the chocolate and yes, the street lights are shaped like chocolate kisses.

From there, we traveled on toward Lancaster, Pa. the heart of Amish country. This is lush farmland with dairy farms, mostly. After a guided tour of a working Amish farm, we saw a beautiful live production of a musical drama titled *Abraham and Sarah--A Journey of Love* about these two and their battle to keep faith in a world of isolation, sin, and human frailty- proving it's never too late to be guided by the Hand of God. Very inspirational!

For dinner that night we went to an authentic Amish farmhouse restaurant where we were served family style, so you heard,

*Continued on page 36*

## Books to Read

### New program gives Catholics access to "church's best-kept secret"

**Catechizing For Justice, A Six Session Program to Promote the Gospel Mission., by Janet I. Miller, Resource Publications, Inc., June, 2001. 80 pages. \$16.95**

The social teachings of the Catholic church are widely respected, but they remain unknown to many Catholics.

"They are often called 'our best-kept secret,'" says Janet I. Miller, a formation catechist and author of *Catechizing for Justice*, a new program designed to promote the church's social mission. "The tradition is very rich. We need make it accessible to people so that it can empower them for action."

Her new book includes six chapters each one covering a basic social teaching: human dignity, structural sin, the reign of God, stewardship, globalization, and solidarity. Chap-

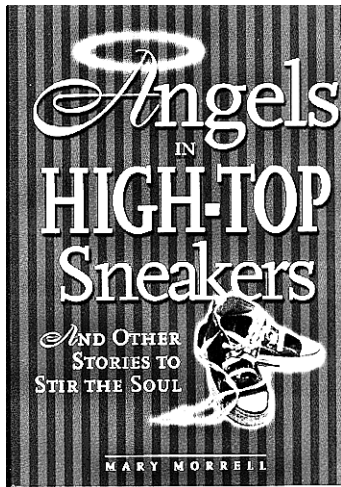
ters draw on church documents for background and use handouts, discussion, and worksheets to involve the participants. This work also includes background material for the catechist, sample forms, a bibliography, a resource list, and suggested strategies for making the process more effective.

Janet I. Miller is a catechetical consultant and a ministry formation catechist for the Diocese of Fresno, California. Previously she taught in junior high school and served as a parish liturgist and Catechumenate director. She received her teaching credential from California Polytechnic Institute and her master's degree in catechesis from Santa Clara University. She is married and the mother of four children.

ISBN: 0-89390-516-X, 416.95, 80 pages. Available June, 2001.

**Angels In High Top Sneakers and Other Stories to Stir the Soul, by Mary Morrell, Loyola Press, October, 2000, 136 pages.**

#### *High-Tops: If you See A Pair, An Angel Is There.*



Everyone at one time or another, has robbed Peter to pay Paul, or has been too tired to check the kids' homework. **Mary Morrell** reminds us that life is not about succeeding but about the journey of trying. This light hearted, upbeat book addresses issues that affect average, hard working, bill-paying, child-raising, life-questioning adults.

From month to month Morrell takes us through an entire year of small miracles and instances of divine inspiration—moment so God's involvement in our everyday lives. A smile from our children, a phone call from a friend, and a kiss from spouse are all examples of the encouragement God gives us, reminding us that we are never alone.

With humor and thoughtfulness, Morrell gently nudges us to pay attention to the small things in our lives. They are the things that make us unique children of God.

Mary Morrell is the associate director of religious education for the diocese of Metuchen in New Jersey and former head staff writer of the *Catholic Spirit* newspaper. She

writes a syndicated column, "Things My Father Taught Me," and a monthly newsletter on adult spiritual formation, *I'll Walk With God*. Morell resides in Colonia, New Jersey, with her husband and six sons. Published by Loyola Press. \$12.95 paperback. ISBN:0-8294-1557-2. Call 1-800-621-1008.

**PERSONALLY SPEAKING - Celebrating Our Catholic Values & Ideals, by Msgr. Jim Lisante, Resurrection Press, October, 2000, 160 pages.**

*"As someone who knows contemporary culture and appreciates what's good in it, Monsignor Jim deals with these issues most persuasively...I urge the prospective reader*

## Path of a Pilgrimage

*Continued from page 35*

"Please pass the fried chicken, etc. Everything was delicious and there was another late night when we just fell into bed!!!"

#### **Wednesday, Oct. 11**

Lots to do today so another early start after Mass at our hotel and morning prayers on our way. After a couple of hours at the Kitchen Kettle Village, we were on our way to Gettysburg, where we toured the Gettysburg Battlefield. We thought this might be dull but we had an on-board guide that really knew his history and he brought us all right into the action. He explained it all so well we had no trouble following the battle and we were just enthralled.

Then we boarded another bus for a tour of President Eisenhower's home and farm. He was stationed at Gettysburg in his early years in the Army and grew to love the countryside around there. When he retired this where he settled. Another late night but tomorrow, on to Washington and the end of our journey.

#### **Thursday, Oct. 12th**

No Mass today at our hotel in Lancaster as we will be attending Mass at the Basilica. So, after breakfast we are on our way. Morning prayers and a rosary bring us to Washington and our final goal, the magnificent Basilica of the Immaculate Conception. The first thing after Fr. Bruce led us up the steps and through the Holy Door was celebrating the Eucharist in one of the Chapels on the ground floor. There were several of these—each one more beautiful than the last. This Mass was a very moving and solemn event with our hearts filled with Thanksgiving to our Heavenly Father for all the graces being showered on us.

After Mass, we were on our own to tour

the rest of the Basilica, spend some time in private prayer, visit the religious goods shop and the book shop, plus grab a bite of lunch—all before meeting on the front steps for a group picture at 1:45! So much to see and do in so little time! But we wouldn't have missed a minute of it.

Then, we picked up an on-board guide for a bus tour. He directed our driver to many points of interest around Washington, Embassy Row, the Capitol, the White House, the Washington Monument, the Lincoln Memorial, and other government buildings. We spent some time at the National Cathedral which was very impressive. Most of our remaining time was spent at the Viet Nam and the new Korean War Memorials. Just as at Gettysburg, there is a profound feeling of sadness at the loss of all those American lives. I bet I wasn't the only that whispered a prayer for all of them that afternoon.

We even experienced some Washington traffic jam but eventually made our way to Lexington, Va., our last night out. It's in the Blue Ridge Mountains and very beautiful, but no fall color yet.

#### **Friday, October 13th**

After Mass and morning prayers, we were glad to see our bus heading west to the green, green grass of home. We arrived back in Axtel around 6:30 and parted with many hugs and goodbyes. We West-Kentuckians still had about another 2 to three hour drive ahead of us but agreed the trip was well worth any hardship we might have suffered. After about a week's rest, we are ready to go again!

Thanks be to God!!!

*Frances Vessels is a member of St. Denis Church in Hickman County, Kentucky.*

*to open up **Personally Speaking** anywhere and start reading. You will not quickly put it down."* --From the foreword by Cardinal William H. Keeler, Archdiocese of Baltimore

In the Introduction by stage and film star Maxwell Caulfield, we are instructed to "... take up the fluorescent pen and not only highlight the home truths and pearls of wisdom contained herein, but say out loud those self same words in order that they may stick.. " And Academy Award-winning Actress Patricia Neal states: "Msgr. Jim Lisante has been my friend for the better part of two decades. I love his writing, his sensitive insights and his obvious compassion. I recommend this book with great enthusiasm.

He is a darling man!"

Msgr. Jim Lisante is the Pastor of St. Thomas the Apostle parish on Long Island. He served for many years as diocesan Director of Family Life. He has often been a frequent spokesperson for the Church on television and radio, and currently hosts a television program called "Personally Speaking" on the Odyssey Network. This is his third book for Resurrection Press.

*Personally Speaking* (ISBN 1-878718-51-7, RP327/04, 160 pp., \$8.95) is available direct from the publisher (add \$2.00 for shipping), at your local Christian bookstore and through Ingram/Spring Arbor Distributors.

**Books To Read Continued on page 37**

# Meditation Garden at Mount Saint Joseph Nears Completion

## Memorial Garden Brick Donation Form

Please complete and return, along with \$125 per brick, to:  
Endowment Fund, Mount Saint Joseph Center, 8001 Cummings Road, Maple Mount, KY 42356 Brick donations are tax deductible to extent allowed by law.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

City State Zip

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

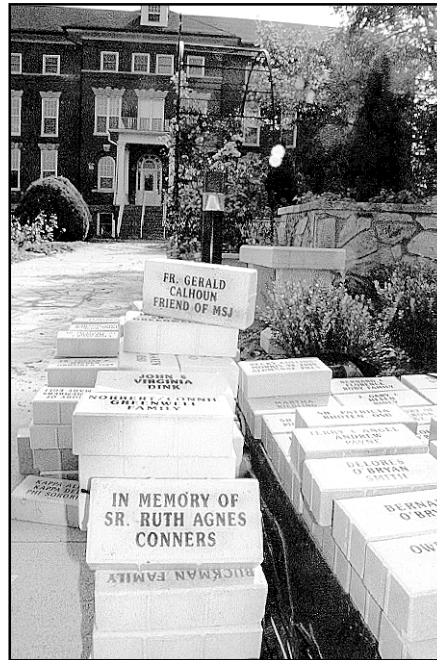
AMOUNT ENCLOSED (\$125 per brick):  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Engravings should appear as follows: (3 lines, 14 spaces per line):

LINE 1: \_\_\_\_\_

LINE 2: \_\_\_\_\_

LINE 3: \_\_\_\_\_



In February 1999, we began to build the Father Paul Joseph Volk/Pioneer Sisters Memory Meditation Garden brick by brick. On August 15, 1999--the 125th anniversary of the arrival of the Ursuline Sisters at Mount Saint Joseph--we dedicated the garden. From the beginning, our goal has been to complete



the donations for bricks by the end of the Year 2000. We are almost there! Spaces remain for only 286 more bricks.

If you would like to give someone a wonderful gift for Christmas, to honor someone who is living, to remember someone who is now with God, you may still reserve a brick in the meditation garden through the form

below.

We are so grateful for the wonderful support of the many people who have donated to our endowment fund. This fund will help to preserve the legacy and build the future of the Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center.

## Mount Saint Joseph Center Calendar

*Programs sponsored by the Center are shown in capital letters. For information about scheduling a program or event for your organization, please contact Kathy McCarty, Director of Facilities, at (270) 229-0200, ext. 413.*



### DECEMBER 2000

1 Door of Hope/Christmas Party  
1-2 Christian Women's Retreat  
2 Audubon Elementary staff

Christmas Party  
3 **ADVENT SPECIAL: A PRE-CHRISTMAS MUSICAL PROGRAM, 3 P.M.**  
5 Trinity Freshman Prayer Day  
8 Advanced Systems

Christmas Party  
9 K.A.P.P.S. Christmas Party  
9 **PROJECT EMPOWER**  
14 **ADVENT MEDITATION RETREAT**

### JANUARY 2001

5-6 Teen Leadership Conference  
12-19 St. Meinrad Seminarians' Retreat  
13 **PROJECT EMPOWER**  
19-20 Servant Leadership Academy  
19-21 Retrouvaille  
22-23 Project A.I.M.M.  
26-27 Good Shepherd Retreat  
26-28 First Presbyterian Church Retreat

### FEBRUARY 2001

2-4 Catholic Engaged Encounter  
9-11 Marriage Encounter  
10 **PROJECT EMPOWER**  
11 Bishop's Evening with Farmers  
13-16 Quilting/Mystery Retreat  
15 **MSJ CENTER ADVISORY BOARD**  
16-17 Grace Fellowship Church Retreat  
16-18 St. Joseph (Central City) Youth Retreat  
22-24 Basket Weavers  
24 Brescia University Ministry Formation Program  
Retreat

## Cathleen Cleaver To Speak For Life at NCCB

WASHINGTON-Cathleen A. Cleaver, Chief Counsel of the Subcommittee on the Constitution, U.S. House of Representatives, has been named Director of Planning and Information for the Pro-Life Secretariat of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops. In this position, Ms. Cleaver will be the chief spokesperson on pro-life issues.

As Chief Counsel of the Subcommittee on the Constitution, Ms. Cleaver has first hand experience in regard to constitutional amendments, sanctity of life issues, freedom of religion, speech and association, and civil rights.

"I am honored ...to help promote the voice of the Catholic community on the most important issue facing America today - the sanctity of human life," said Ms. Cleaver. *Source: Nov. 13, 2000 USCC News release*

## SECRET OF SANCTITY IS HUMILITY, JOHN PAUL II SAYS

### Pope Addresses 80,000 on Feast of All Saints

VATICANCITY, NOV. 1, 2000 (ZENIT.org).- The secret of sanctity, like that of Mary, is "profound humility," John Paul II told pilgrims gathered on the feast of All Saints.

An unexpectedly large crowd—80,000—gathered in St. Peter's Square for Mass on a feast day which also marked the 50th anniversary of the proclamation of the dogma of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin into heaven.

The Bernini colonnade was adorned with standards of saints, including Marian standards from 50 countries, including China. The idea to bring all these standards to Rome

was conceived by a French association on the occasion of the Pope's visit to Rennes in 1996.

The Holy Father's homily turned into a hymn of thanksgiving to God for Mary's beauty and that "immense multitude" of "anonymous saints that only He knows."

Pope John Paul II cited examples: "mothers and fathers of families, who in their daily dedication to their children have contributed effectively to the growth of the Church and the edification of society; priests, religious and laymen who, as lit candles before the Lord's altar, have spent themselves in their neighbor's service in their material and spiritual need; men and women missionaries who have left everything to proclaim the Gospel to all corners of the earth. And the list could

continue."

John Paul II said that Jesus made the road to sanctity very clear in the Gospel: the beatitudes. The Holy Father went on to describe the "poor in spirit," the "afflicted," the "pure of heart," those who "have hunger and thirst for justice," the "merciful," and those who "bring peace."

The last mentioned is the "synthesis of messianic goods," he said. "In a world that reflects tremendous antagonisms and exclusions, it is necessary to promote fraternal coexistence inspired in love and the capacity to share, overcoming enmities and oppositions."

In a certain sense, the Holy Father said, Mary summarized the beatitudes in her life: "Blessed is she who believed in the fulfill-

ment of the things that were said by the Lord!" Elizabeth said."

What is the secret of this sanctity? According to the Holy Father, it must be sought in "profound humility," in the humility that penetrates her words: "Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it done unto me according to thy word."

"Mary, the first of the redeemed, shines before us like a lamp that guides the way of all humanity, reminding us of the last end to which the person is called: sanctity and eternal life," the Pope emphasized.

These two goals, the Pope said, cannot be reached without being dedicated to justice and peace on earth—a peace like the one sought for the Holy Land in the Mideast.

Source: ZENIT, an International News Agency. Mailing Address: ZENIT, C.P. 18356, 00164 Rome, Italy. Visit Zenit's web page at <http://www.zenit.org/>

## God Uses Cyberspace To Help His People Pray Publicly

*Editor's Note: Here is the chain of messages this commentary took to get to us here at the WKC. We pass this commentary on to you. For you who send this on: Bless your Hearts!*

*smmagdalen@passionistnuns.org  
"Rick Snow" <rick.snow@nashville.com>  
To: "Susan" <sparky536@juno.com>*

***"Those who would give up essential liberty, to purchase a little temporary safety, deserve neither liberty nor safety." - Benjamin Franklin 1775***

### Courageous principal

This is a statement that was read over the PA system at the football game at Roane County High School, Kingston, Tennessee by school Principal Jody McCloud, on September 1, 2000. I thought it was worth sharing with the world, and hope you will forward it to all your friends. It clearly shows just how far this country has gone in the wrong direction.

**"It has always been the custom** at Roane County High School football games to say a prayer and play the National Anthem to honor God and Country. Due to a recent ruling by the Supreme Court, I am told that saying a prayer is a violation of Federal Case Law.

"As I understand the law at this time, I can use this public facility to approve of sexual perversion and call it an alternate lifestyle, and if someone is offended, that's OK. I can use it to condone sexual promiscuity by dispensing condoms and calling

it safe sex. If someone is offended, that's OK.

"I can even use this public facility to present the merits of killing an unborn baby as a viable means of birth control. If someone is offended, no problem.

### Commentary

"I can designate a school day as earth day and involve students in activities to religiously worship and praise the goddess, mother earth, and call it ecology.

"I can use literature, videos and presentations in the classroom that depict people with strong, traditional, Christian convictions as simple minded and ignorant and call it enlightenment.

"However, if anyone uses this facility to honor God and ask Him to bless this event with safety and good sportsmanship, Federal Case Law is violated. This appears to be inconsistent at best, and at worst, diabolical.

"Apparently, we are to be tolerant of everything and anyone except God and His Commandments.

"Nevertheless, as a school principal, I frequently ask staff and students to abide by rules with which they do not necessarily agree. For me to do otherwise would be inconsistent at best, and at worst, hypocritical. I suffer from that affliction enough unintentionally. I certainly do not need to add an intentional transgression. For this reason, I shall, 'Render unto Caesar that which is Caesar's,' and refrain from praying at this time.

"However, if you feel inspired to honor, praise and thank God, and ask Him in the



**Bishop Soenneker Catholic school community in prayer at Viet Nam Memorial, Moreland Park, Owensboro, May 3, 1999**

name of Jesus to bless this event, please feel free to do so. As far as I know that's not against the law--yet."

**One by one**, the people in the stands bowed their heads, held hands with one another, and began to pray. They prayed in the stands. They prayed in the team huddles. They prayed at the concession stand. And they prayed in the announcer's box. The only place they didn't pray was in the Supreme Court of the United States' of America - the seat of "justice" in the one nation under God.

"Somehow, Kingston, Tennessee, remem-

bered what so many have forgotten - we are given the Freedom OF Religion, not the Freedom FROM Religion.

If you were blessed, pass it on!  
**Editor's Note: Catholic Schools Superintendent Joe O'Bryan commented that "We in the Catholic schools can pray out loud and legally at our games, as well as before school and at dismissal. Catholic Schools have many prayer services and regular Celebrations of the Mass. Our Catholic School parents make big sacrifices for their children to be educated in this prayerful atmosphere."**

# Finding the Sacred in ..... Everyday Life

## Jesus Seen Walking Down Alley off Locust Street

As seen by Lisa Gardner

Before bus loads head to this part of downtown Owensboro anxious to make a pilgrimage or hunt for some sacred image etched onto the pavement of the alley, I guess I should give my explanation of what "I saw Jesus walking..." really means.

Working as the editor's assistant for WKC, my office is on the lower level of the Catholic Pastoral Center. Lower level would be a fancier term for "basement." The view from the office windows therefore, is below ground level and I must look *up* to see out. And what is outside my office is that of a rather nondescript alley.

At first, I wasn't too thrilled by this. The third-floor offices hold all types of views--parking lots, roof tops, trees, St. Stephen Cathedral, not to mention the different colored skies and what type of weather is on tap for the day. But not down here. All my view provided me was of concrete block, a brick chimney from the house across the alley, and a certain amount of light filtering through

## Local Religious Leaders Attend LCWR Meeting

continued from page 34

chose to bring attention to Pajarito Mesa in support of the ministry of Franciscan Sister Maryagnes Curran, who works with its people, and to live out their goal of using their corporate voice to bring attention to social systems that need change.

The assembly closed with the transfer of leadership and commissioning of members. Sister Nancy Sylvester became past president; Sister Mary Mollison of the Congregation of St. Agnes, Fond du Lac, Wis., took office as president; and Sister Kathleen Pruitt of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace, Bellevue, Wash., was elected vice president.

each day.

As my duties increased, I found myself concentrating intently onto my computer screen and came to accept the view, or should I say lack of it. After a few months of this I noticed while working from my desk, that out of the corner of my eye something or someone would distract my attention and be outside my office window.

Unlike the second or third floor offices, when someone or something is close to my window, it seems like they're on the same level as me--right in my office. Whether it was the red bird perched upon the guard rail singing its' own special tune, a cat slinking by in hot pursuit of who knows what, or some neighborhood kids whizzing past on their bikes, each would take me briefly away from my duties and give me a smile.

But it's Jesus walking down the alley who always leaves me thinking. Let me say that I don't know who he is, or where he comes from. I see him so infrequently that I couldn't begin to guess as to when his next appearance might be again. All I know is that he appears when I'm in need of a little TLC.

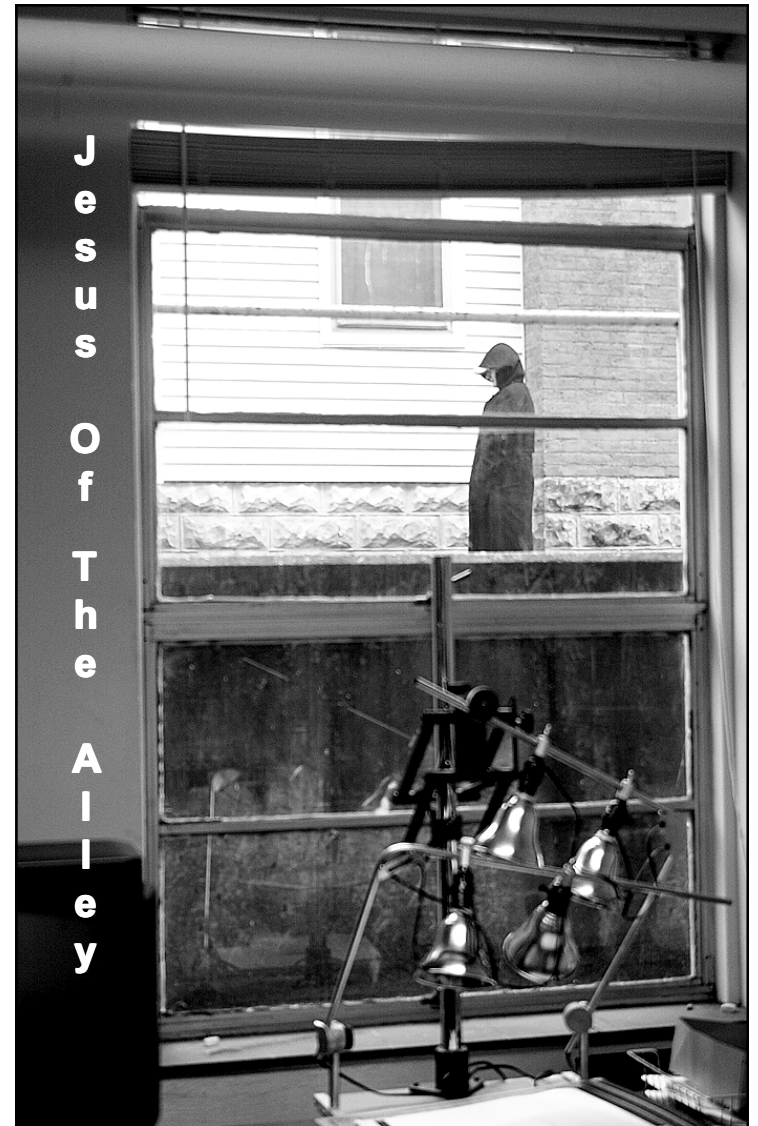
It's hard to guess his age, probably not yet 30. He's of average height--5'8"--5'11." He's slight of build, has long dark hair, a beard, and by the style of his dress is probably a regular at the Pitinio Shelter. He strolls by my office window leisurely and is unaware that I am looking up at him.

I have come to appreciate his presence so much that I have referred to him as *Jesus of the Alley*. Naturally, this began because of the way he looks (that holy-card image of Christ) but he has portrays this attitude as he walks--unhurried and yet with dignity and purpose. But his Christ-likeness is that he will arrive at times when I am particularly stressed out. Things just aren't going right: I can't locate a photo for a story, an eight-page article won't scan cleanly and now must be typed into PageMaker, or, and it never fails, the copy machine breaks down, and I must call that dreaded 1-800-customer service number for repairs. Oddly enough, it's in these instances that he will suddenly pass by. And it calms me.

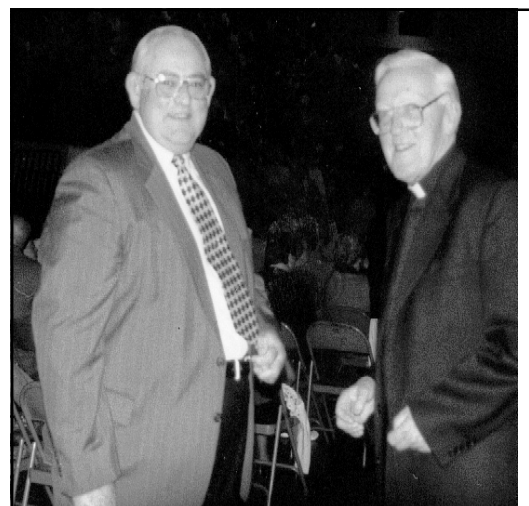
Suddenly I am transported to the idea that all is really well. That Jesus Christ, our risen Savior and Lord, is with me--He's with all of us--every single day in every single moment. He's with us in our small, big, mundane, exciting, challenging, peaceful and hectic moments of everyday life. How many times do we forget this as we all get caught up in the busyness of our lives.

Nothing new I know; we've all been told this time and time again. But it's the abrupt appearance of this unknown man who helps me feel the universal and ever-present living spirit of God who lives in each and every one of us.

I invite you to look around for your very own *Jesus of the Alley*. Whether it be male or female, animal, vegetable, or mineral, I can promise that it will provide you with some peace and a smile every time.



## Keeping the Jubilee 2000 Spirit Alive



Fr. Joe O'Donnell (R) pictured here with Rev. Tom Shelton of Ohio County greet each other at the Jesus 2000 celebration at the Owensboro Sports Center on Sunday, October 15.

The four day event sponsored by local Baptist Churches kept alive the Jubilee Year theme of worship and celebration for all Christians. The public was invited to attend the services. Guest speakers, Christian bands and singers, along with outreach services were part of the praise and worship services.

Fr. Joe who directs the Office for Ecumenism was there to show his support in the Jesus 2000 celebration for all denominations.

Photo by Lisa Gardner

## “Examination of Conscience”

I wish I had sat at the feet  
of those children  
who laughed like laughing gulls  
and learned from their wisdom.

I fear there were children  
who lost their wonderings  
and folded their questions  
because of my absurd rules.

I long to find the children I bullied  
and confess to them.

I hope they are men and women  
who plant pumpkins  
and pick up hitchhikers  
because of me.

I pray my students  
risk the stars  
follow wildflowers  
applaud song birds  
cry with clowns  
are jailed for truth.



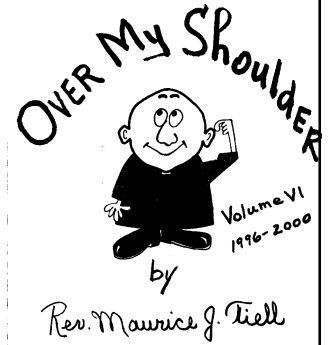
Finding Wild Mushrooms

By S. Caroline Booth Field, S.C.N.,  
November 14, 2000

## New Year Reflections

As another New Year is about to begin,  
May this Year of the Lord belong to Him!  
If for peace and Happiness we really yearn,  
Then a Lesson from past use of time learn!  
Every year is given to us one day at a time,  
Providing us a chance to let our light shine.  
Like St. Paul, let's try to leave the past behind  
And keep our fresh Goals uppermost in mind.  
From our past we all know that the past is weak.  
Strength comes from Christ when His help we seek.  
When like Job we are being put to the test,  
On those days our God will help us do our very best.  
Just watching birds nesting up in a tree  
Will show us how our family life ought to be.  
Since together God wants all our families to stay,  
We need time together and quality time to pray.  
St. John said that he wrote all we need to know.  
This New Year in God's Word we all must grow.  
Jesus Christ came to make all things New.  
To make this happen, much depends on you and me.

Composed December 23, 1996 by Fr. Maurice Tiell.



## Teen Dating--What You Need to Know

NEW YORK--The Christophers have just published a *News Note* designed for young people that will also interest counselors and parents. The nonprofit organization is making a special offer to anyone who would like a copy. the publication, *Teen Dating--What You need to Know*:

- Is a message for young people from young people
- Gives practical advice and draws from real life experiences
- Reinforces positive values without “preaching”
- Presents a positive view of sexuality as a gift to be reated with care
- Reminds young people that their value is not determined by dating

Gerald M. Costello, President and Administrator of The Christophers, said, “We realize that now more than ever, society needs people who are empowered by the strength of their convictions. Young people particularly need to know that someone is in their corner and this *News Note* does that.”

Christopher *News Notes* have been published since 1945 and new titles are released ten times a year. Over 2,100 youth workers

currently receive *News Notes*, which explore a wide range of topics that include emotional and physical health, relationships, ethics and spirituality. Single copies are available free of charge to anyone who would like to receive them. Twenty copies are free to educators and guidance counselors. This *News Note* or a complete catalog of available titles can be obtained by writing to: The Christophers, 12 East 48th Street, New York, NY 10017, E-mailing mail@christophers.org or by calling 212-759-4050.

The Christophers was founded in 1945, based on the Judeo-Christian concept of service to God and all humanity. It encourages people of all faiths, ages and backgrounds to recognize their abilities and use them to make the world a better place. It does this through English and Spanish *News Notes*, newspaper columns and books; television and radio programming, contests for students, Awards and other activities. Additional information is available at www.christophers.org. on the Web. The Christopher motto is: “It’s better to light one candle than to curse the darkness.”

## Help For Missionaries

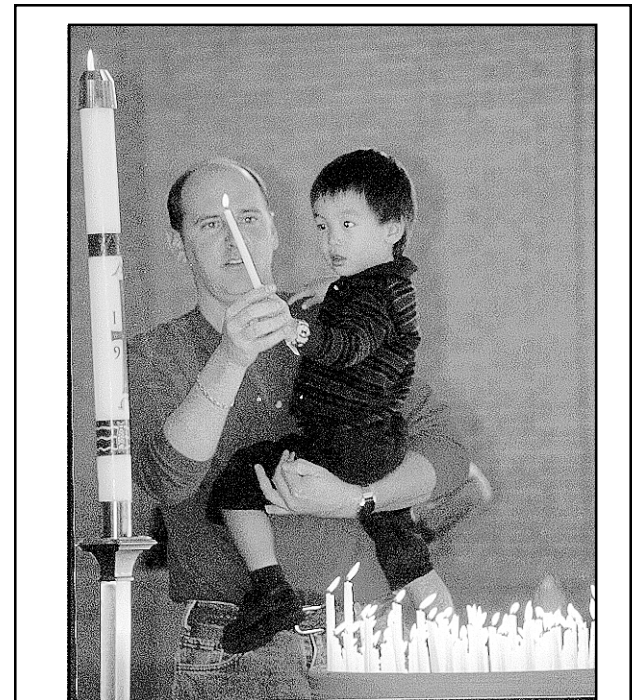
*Editor's Note: Western Kentucky Catholics correspond frequently with missionaries to other lands and towns of island earth. Here is a letter sent to us from a couple who are WKC readers and who wish to be known only as "Friends of the Little Flower, St. Theresa."*

My Dear Friend in Jesus,  
Received your kind parcel.  
God Bless you. You and your intentions will be in my prayers.

I am presently in charge of Vaddy Parish which is part of the coastal belt with 10,000 Catholics. They are mostly fishermen.

If you could send some financial help to the needy in this area, it would be appreciated very much.

With priestly blessings,  
Fr. Paul Cruz, St. Anthony Church, Vaddy, Kallam P.O., 691013 Kerala, India P.S.: Dear “anonymous,” Special prayers are offered. Please send ball point pens and deoderant bath soaps with your next parcel.



## Living In A Communion of Saints

Keith Clark and adopted son Parker lit a candle on All Souls Day in Our Lady of Lourdes Church for Keith's Dad. Lois Rutigliano photo